

Wabash Plain Dealer

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WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 13, 2021

\$3

Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.

Tomorrow's weather 43 | 31



Pulse
of Wabash

Seeking sports stringers

Do you have a passion for writing, photography and local sports? The Wabash Plain Dealer is now accepting applications for paid stringers for the upcoming winter sports season. To apply, email your writing and photography clips, cover letter, resume and list of references to rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Notice to readers

To reduce risks to our employees and community, the Wabash Plain Dealer is closed to the public until further notice. Payments may be mailed to Wabash Plain Dealer, P.O. Box 309, Marion, IN 46952, or called in. For news, call 260-225-4662 or email news@wabashplaindealer.com. For advertising, call 260-225-4947 or email tcampbell@prgimmi.com. For circulation and customer support, call 260-563-2131. The Wabash Plain Dealer is committed to providing the best product to its customers and appreciates the support during this time. For more local news content, please visit wabashplaindealer.com where you will find all of the news that could not fit into today's edition. Get your news faster by activating your online account which is included in your print subscription rates. Our stories appear online in an easy-to-read format as they are completed. Thank you for your support through this pandemic.

Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distribution every other Wednesday

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester; and 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/

See PULSE, page A2

Inside

Classified, A8 Sports, A5
Comics, A6 Viewpoint, A7
Crossword, A6 Weather, A2
Obituaries, A3



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COVID-19 mutation found in the state

On Saturday, the ISDH reported the 45th COVID-19 death in Wabash County

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

On Saturday, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) reported the 45th COVID-19 death in Wabash County.

And on Monday, the ISDH announced that a new strain of the virus that causes COVID-19 has been identified in Indiana.

The strain, which was identified through testing

at the ISDH laboratory and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is the same one identified in the United Kingdom last fall. It does not cause more severe infections, but it is much more easily spread.

"Its common for viruses to mutate, and we are seeing that occur with COVID-19," said State Health Commissioner Kris Box, M.D., FACOG. "Because this strain of the virus can be transmitted more easily, its more important than ever that Hoosiers continue to wear their masks, practice social distancing, maintain good hygiene and get vaccinated

when they are eligible."

Before the new mutation had been identified in the state, Box said during a televised press conference on Tuesday, Dec. 22 that they "do have the ability in the state" to test for the strain using a protein associated with the virus.

Box said this development shouldn't undercut the state's current vaccination efforts, but that it may be too early to say for sure.

"To our knowledge, our vaccines will still not be effected by this mutation in the particular strain but again, only time will tell that for us going forward. And if individuals who

have been vaccinated end up infected, then it's great to test to see what strain that particular individual was infected with," said Box.

School figures

The ISDH's school dashboard was updated Monday, Jan. 11 with data as of 11:59 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8. The dashboard is updated weekly at noon Mondays.

Statewide, 170 schools reported no cases, 1,896 reported one or more case and 302 have not reported.

In Wabash County, only White's Jr./Sr. High School has reported to the ISDH that they have no cases.

During the latest update, Wabash County schools with one or more confirmed cases included:

■ Manchester Jr./Sr. High School (MHS) reported six new student positive cases, fewer than five new teacher positive cases, fewer than five new staff positive cases, 42 total student positive cases, 10 total teacher positive cases and nine total staff positive cases.

■ Manchester Elementary School (MES) reported fewer than five new student positive cases, six total student positive cases, fewer

See MUTATION, page A9

Weaver takes his place on the City Council

Nearly three years left on former councilmember Figert's term

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

On Friday, Wade Weaver officially became a member of the Wabash City Council. Weaver took the oath of office at the Wabash County Judicial Center after being appointed to that role the day before.

On Thursday, Wabash County Council District 2 representative and Wabash County Republican Party chair Barbara Pearson announced Wabash City Council District 1 representative Mitch Figert would be replaced by Weaver.

Pearson said Figert's resignation after five years on the council was effective Thursday, Dec. 31.

Pearson said Weaver was appointed because there was only one qualifying precinct committeeman.

"I'm really excited about it, actually," said Weaver, during a phone interview.

Weaver — who is the owner of WJOT-FM 105.9 The Bash — said he contacted Pearson about the role after he learned Figert had submitted his resignation.

"I knew that he was a Republican and I knew the chairperson in the county would be the one to know how it works," said Weaver. "She said, 'Yeah if you



Wade Weaver, left, takes the oath of office Friday at the Wabash County Judicial Center.

Photo by Alina Reed / Plain Dealer

want to put your name in the ring, I'll give you an application. Have it back to me by Jan. 4."

Weaver said he received a positive response just days

after turning in his application.

Though this is Weaver's first public office in Wabash County, he is no stranger to local politics.

In the mid-1990s Weaver was elected to a school board seat in Marion. And in 2015, current Mayor

See WEAVER, page A2

Wabash Area Community Theater plans first show of 2021

Auditions set for this weekend; show set for Valentine's Day weekend

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The show must go on, even in a pandemic.

After months of quiet stages, the Wabash Area Community Theater (WACT) has announced its first production of 2021, according to Bev Vanderpool.

Auditions for "Love Letters" by A.R. Gurney, will be

held from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16 and Sunday, Jan. 17 in the Charley Creek Inn's ballroom at 111 W. Market St.

"Love Letters is a play that requires only two actors. (It's) one man and one woman, seated on stage reading aloud the love letters that they have sent to one another throughout their lifetimes," said Vanderpool. "There is a great deal of humor, doubt, bitterness and love. Overall, it runs the gamut of emotions. It is wonderfully written."

Vanderpool said for those who are interested in auditioning, the production requires "virtually no memorization."

Vanderpool said the play is "a tender, tragi-comic and nuanced examination of the shared nostalgia, missed opportunities and a deep closeness of two lifelong complicated friends."

Vanderpool said they planned to hold a maximum of five rehearsals.

"Please consider auditioning," said Vanderpool.

The show itself will take place from Friday, Feb. 12 to Sunday, Feb. 14, which is Valentine's Day weekend.

Vanderpool said the show will be featured as

See THEATER, page A2



Provided photo

Charley Creek Inn general manager Howard Kaler and "Love Letters" director Brett Robinson talk over some ideas for the February Wabash Community Theater Show.

WEAVER

From page A1

Scott Long won the General Election by 91 votes against Democrat Margaret “Boo” Salb and beat then-Independent candidate Weaver by 230 votes.

“I just wanted to throw my name in there and get started,” said Weaver. “I’ve always been interested in it. Class president several times, all that kind of stuff. I really want to dive into how we can make this a good, thriving city again.”

Weaver said he didn’t necessarily have an agenda as he prepared to attend his first Wabash City Council meeting as a member later that evening.

“I definitely want to learn as much as I can,” said Weaver.

Weaver said he thought Figert “did a wonderful job of representing the south side.”

“I’d like to continue his agenda for the south side, but also city-wide and help the other councilmen and the mayor to keep the city moving like we’ve been doing,” said Weaver. “I don’t have a pet project or anything yet. I kind of want to get my feet

wet and understand what my role is.”

Figert won re-election in 2019 and there are still three years left for Weaver to serve on the four-year term. Weaver said that even though the prospect of the 2023 primary election was quite a way off, he would be running “for sure.”

“I’ve got some time, but I will say I am very interested in running again. I want to do this for a little while,” said Weaver.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

PULSE

From page A1

campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

Shine a light for Babe of Wabash County

A donation of \$25 will place a candle in memory of a loved one in a window of the Babe of Wabash County house at 88 W. Hill St. and “support (the) mission of creating positive and healthy family cultures by building community connections, providing educational materials, and offering resources for families in Wabash County.” Donations to the Babe of Wabash County fund can be made online at cfwabash.org or by check, with Babe of Wabash County in the memo line, sent to the Community Foundation, 105 W. 2nd St., Suite 100, North Man-

chester, IN 46962. To participate in the fundraiser, visit <https://www.babeofwabashcounty.org/light-up-babe>.

Honeywell hosts annual Clark Gallery 92 County Art Show

Honeywell Arts & Entertainment will be hosting its annual 92 County Art Show in the Honeywell Center Clark Gallery through Monday, Feb. 15. The exhibit will be available for public viewing from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and will be hosted virtually via HoneywellArts.org and the Honeywell Center’s Facebook and Instagram pages. For more information, visit <http://honeywellarts.org/exhibits>.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on

and Saturday, Feb. 13. Doors and cash bar open at 6 p.m. The meal starts at 6:30 p.m. On Sunday, Feb. 14, the doors, cash bar and meal open at 12:30 p.m.

The WACT’s most recent productions included the winter 2019 comedy “Death by Chocolate” and the fall 2020 production of “Seussical the Musical.”

In June, Vanderpool put out a call for a director for this 2021 spring comedy. In the end, Brett Robinson was named to the role.

For more information, email Robinson at b.a.robinson@outlook.com.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

THEATER

From page A1

“Dinnertainment,” performed in a dinner theater setting in the Big Four Ballroom located in Charley Creek Inn.

Dinner theater tickets are \$30 per person with advance purchase required. Show dates will be Friday, Feb. 12

and Saturday, Feb. 13. Doors and cash bar open at 6 p.m. The meal starts at 6:30 p.m. On Sunday, Feb. 14, the doors, cash bar and meal open at 12:30 p.m.

The WACT’s most recent productions included the winter 2019 comedy “Death by Chocolate” and the fall 2020 production of “Seussical the Musical.”

In June, Vanderpool put out a call for a director for this 2021 spring comedy. In the end, Brett Robinson was named to the role.

For more information, email Robinson at b.a.robinson@outlook.com.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

TRIVIA

Who am I?

Brain Teasers

Movie Stars

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PLAY TRIVIA AND WIN!

WE ARE GIVING AWAY **\$1,000** in our new Publication TRIVIA Game

Trivia begins on January 13, 2021 and concludes on February 20, 2021. Look for the Trivia question on page A2 of the Wabash Plain Dealer every Wednesday and Saturday and fill in the correct answer on the entry form.

Mail your entry forms each week, or save them up and mail them all at one time, to be included in the drawing. Your envelope must be post marked by February 18 to be accepted. Drawing occurs on February 23, 2021.

First Prize \$500 Second Prize \$250 Third Prize \$150 Fourth Prize \$50 Fifth Prize \$50

1. Kingston, Zuma and Apollo are the sons of which American female pop star?

Answer _____

ENTRY FORM

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____


No purchase necessary. Entry form must be completely filled out to qualify. Only one entry per household per week is permitted. All decisions of the newspaper are final. Employees and their immediate family members of the newspaper are not eligible to win.

Drawing of all eligible entries will be drawn on February 23, 2021, picking first, second, third, fourth and fifth place winners; and published in the newspaper on February 27, 2021. Must be 18 years or older.

MAIL YOUR FORM TO: Wabash Plain Dealer 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992

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Our photo gallery provides a virtual tour of the facility and examples from those who have Tied The Knot at Bliss Barn

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5-Day Weather Summary




Wednesday
Partly Cloudy
44 / 30




Thursday
Mostly Cloudy
43 / 31



Friday
Rain & Snow Possible
39 / 25




Saturday
Cloudy
30 / 22




Sunday
Mostly Cloudy
31 / 23

Sun and Moon


Today's sunset 5:41 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 8:02 a.m.




New
1/13



First
1/20



Full
1/28



Last
2/4

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see partly cloudy skies, high of 44°, humidity of 66%. South southwest wind 9 to 13 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 30°. South southwest wind 11 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 23°. Thursday, skies will be mostly cloudy, high of 43°, humidity of 73%.

CLINIC

From page A1

becomes available.

Long said they would be taking down a “call list” in case registrants do not show up for their appointment or cancel.

“If we can’t get somebody rescheduled we’ll be able to call people to come down to take the vaccine so that we’re not wasting doses,” said Long.

Long said they would be distributing the Moderna version of the vaccine, and the second shot would need to be administered four weeks after the first. Appointments for the second dose will be made at the clinic when the first dose is administered.

On Wednesday, Jan. 6, Gov. Eric J. Holcomb and the ISDH announced that Hoosiers age 80 and older will be eligible to register for a free COVID-19 vaccine beginning Friday, Jan. 8. At least one vaccine clinic will be located in each Indiana county.

As of last week, State Health Commissioner Kris Box, M.D., FACOG, said vaccine supplies are still limited. Indiana has received just over 350,000 doses of vaccine to date and is scheduled to receive about 78,000 vaccines per week at this time.

On Friday morning, the ISDH reported high interest in COVID-19 vaccines has caused slowdowns to the state’s vaccine registration site and 2-1-1 system, “but both systems are working.” Individuals who are having difficulty registering online can also call one of Indiana’s Area Agencies on Aging for help with registration.

Long said he had heard that 2-1-1 was telling people to contact their local health departments, which could be a problem.

“Therein lies an issue with minimal staff at our health department and they’re doing flu shot clinics right now. So, if they don’t have the internet, they can call City Hall,” said Long. “A lot of the counties are just now going live to give the vaccine and that’s all just local health departments.”

Individuals age 80 and older account for less than 4 percent of the state’s population but represent more than 19 percent of the hospitalizations and more than half of the COVID-19 deaths in the state, according to the ISDH.

The ISDH reported a total of 33,500 Hoosiers age 80 or older registered for free COVID-19 vaccines between 9 and 11:30 a.m. Friday, the first day of eligibility for this age group. Among those registering, 21,000 people scheduled appointments in the first 90 minutes after registration opened.

As of Tuesday, more than 204,000 Hoosiers had received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, and more than 31,000 have received both doses and are fully vaccinated. The ISDH has created a vaccine dashboard that will show the latest number of vaccines administered. The dashboard will be updated daily.

Local volunteers still being sought

On Thursday, Wabash County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) director Keith Walters said they were seeking volunteers for a soon-to-be-opened local vaccine clinic.

Walters said they needed health care workers, nurses, paramedics, EMTs, pharmacists, registration workers and administration workers.

Walters said those who were interested should contact Parkview Wabash president Marilyn Custer-Mitchell by email at Marilyn.Custer-Mitchell@parkview.com.

On Friday, Jan. 8, Custer-Mitchell said this was not a Parkview initiative, but instead, a county effort, involving her, Long, North Manchester Town Manager Adam Penrod and Walters.

Custer-Mitchell said they have been told we will be receiving 100 doses a week for the next two weeks.

Custer-Mitchell said people who are eligible for vaccinations is determined by the ISDH. She said those interested must register and schedule an appointment ahead of time. Walk-ins will not be accepted. They can schedule by visiting www.ourshot.in.gov or calling 2-1-1.

Custer-Mitchell said they will run the clinic the first two weeks of Jan. 10 and Jan 17 from 1 to 7 p.m. Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. She said the clinic is being held at the Wabash County Museum “due to the generosity of the Museum Board for allowing the use of the Porter Room.”

Custer-Mitchell said for the first two weeks they will need 16 volunteers each week, with volunteers working three-hour shifts each week on either Thursday or Saturday. Volunteers will be clinical, with the ability to administer the vaccine; or administrative, helping with registration and scheduling. Volunteers are being sought for the next two weeks for the following time frames: 1 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

On Friday, Walters said a photo ID, proof of age or verification of current employment as a healthcare worker or first responder in Indiana will be required for those interested in registering to get their vaccinations at the clinic.

Walters said there is no cost

to the individual, but insurance may be charged an administration fee. Individuals should bring a photo ID and an insurance card if they have one.

Walters said people who have been vaccinated may still be able to infect others, so even those who are vaccinated should continue wearing a mask and quarantining if they are a close contact with a positive case.

Parkview Health, MGH, Lutheran also continue vaccinations

As part of the state’s vaccination plan, Marion General Hospital (MGH) has been designated as a Phase 1-A vaccine distribution site and will be responsible for handling the vaccination of health care workers in Grant and Wabash counties.

On Thursday, Dec. 14, Lutheran Health community relations and strategic events director Joy Lohse said they would begin vaccinations the following morning at Dupont Hospital in Fort Wayne and Kosciusko Community Hospital in Warsaw.

On Tuesday, Dec. 29, Lohse said they had received their second shipment of the Pfizer vaccine and the first shipment of the Moderna vaccine.

At 12:09 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, Parkview Health made history by administering the first COVID-19 vaccine in the state of Indiana. Parkview Health public relations manager Tami Brigle said Parkview anticipated receiving a shipment of about 2,000 doses of the vaccine that week and 8,000 doses the following week. As of Thursday, Dec. 17, Brigle said they had administered more than 650 vaccines to healthcare personnel from Monday through Wednesday of that week.


On Monday, Jan. 4, Parkview Health communications director Jessica Foor said they had administered 7,114 vaccinations as of Saturday, Jan. 2.

On Thursday, Jan. 7, Brigle said Parkview Health will continue to host a vaccine clinic now that the available pool of registrants has expanded beyond health care workers at the Parkview Mirro Center for Research & Innovation, 10622 Parkview Plaza Drive, Fort Wayne. Those eligible for vaccination must register for an appointment before arriving at the Parkview Mirro Center.

Brigle said family members will be allowed to make appointments on behalf of eligible seniors.

For more information, visit www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine or <https://ourshot.in.gov>.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



Wabash Plain Dealer

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Obituaries

Rex Temple

Rex Temple, 79, of Wabash, passed away on Monday, January 11, 2021. Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 15, 2021 at McDonald Funeral Home, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash, Indiana 46992.

Visitation will be from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2021, at the funeral home. Online condolences may be directed to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

Robert Lee Thompson

Funeral services for Robert Lee Thompson, 74, of Wabash are private at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241

Manchester Ave., Wabash. Friends may call 4:00 – 8:00 pm, Thursday, January 14, 2021 at the funeral home.

Leona Feters

May 27, 1949 – Jan. 10, 2021

Leona Feters, North Manchester, died January 10, 2021. Leona was born May 27, 1949 to Ray and Anna Marie (Layman) Filbrun. Leona is survived by her husband, Jay Feters; sons, Gabe (Allicia) and Ben Feters; brothers, Larry (Melinda) and Terry (Elizabeth) Filbrun; sisters, Audrey Rood and Nova (Mark) Able.

Calling Saturday, January 16, 2021 from 2:00 to 5:00 and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Old German Baptist Brethren Church, 12546 North S.R. 13, North Manchester. Funeral services will begin Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Old German Baptist Brethren Church. Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Pauline Spohr

Aug. 13, 1942 – Dec. 20, 2020

Pauline Spohr, 78, Centerville, Tennessee, died December 20, 2020. Pauline was born on August 13, 1942 to Oliver and Junie (Salmons) Prater. Pauline is survived by her sons, Larry Bradford, Rev. Gregory (LuAnn) Bradford, Charles (Michele) Bradford, and Keith Bradford; brother Jerry Prater; sister, Willadean Skaggs; and many grandchildren and

great-grandchildren. A graveside service will be held at a later date. Burial will be held at Fairview Cemetery, County Road 300 East and County Road 1000 North, Servia, Indiana. The family of Pauline Spohr has entrusted McDonald Funeral Home, Centerville, Tennessee and McKee Mortuary, North Manchester, Indiana, with final arrangements.

Carolyn S. Mays

Carolyn S. Mays, 83, of Wabash, passed away at 10:02 a.m. on January 8, 2021 at Parkview Wabash Hospital. Carolyn is survived by two daughters, Dianna Ragon, of Jacksonville, Florida and Roberta (Paul) McKnight, of Wabash; one sister, Bonnie Law, of Virginia; fourteen grandchildren, nineteen great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, January 15, 2021 at McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash. Friends and family may call two hours prior to the funeral service starting at 4:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Online condolences may be directed to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

Mildred Ione ‘Millie’ Mendenhall

Sept. 24, 1928 – Jan. 10, 2021

Mildred Ione “Millie” Mendenhall, 92, of Warsaw, Indiana, formerly of Wabash County, died at 1:03 pm, Sunday, January 10, 2021 at Paddock Springs in Warsaw. She was born September 24, 1928 in Miami County, Indiana, to Melvin and Golda V. (Binkerd) Coldren. Millie married Dorwin “Buck” Mendenhall on August 10, 1946; he died December 15, 1988. She worked at the Wabash County Sheriffs Office, Beauchamp-McSpadden Insurance Office in North Manchester, the ASCS Office and Production Credit. She was a lifetime member of the Warsaw VFW. Millie enjoyed crocheting and enjoyed walking. She is survived by two children, Bryan C. (Joyce)



Mendenhall of Claypool, Indiana, and Marcia L. Parson of Marion, Indiana, 4 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, brother, Weldon Coldren of Wabash, and her sister, Lois McKenna of Vallejo, California. She was also preceded in death by her parents, son, Rodney Mendenhall who died April 13, 2020, and two brothers, Donald and Kenneth Coldren. There will be no services. Burial will be in Friends Cemetery, Wabash at a later date. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. Preferred memorial is Shop With A Cop. The memorial guest book for Millie may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Beverly Ann (DeSpain) Powell

Aug. 25, 1940 – Jan. 11, 2021

Beverly Ann (DeSpain) Powell, 80, of Indianapolis, went home to be with the Lord early on the morning of Monday, January 11, 2021 at St. Francis South. She was born on August 25, 1940 in Hawthorne, California, a daughter of the late Ben H. DeSpain and Audrey B. (Aubrey) Porter. Beverly was a 1958 high school graduate of Frankfort Pilgrim College and High School in Frankfort, Indiana. On July 5, 1960, Beverly married the love of her life, John Edward Powell Sr. She loved him completely and fully until her death. Beverly had an indomitable spirit, always learning something new, and was someone who would not quit. For 19 years, Beverly taught remedial reading, art and other elementary school classes. She was very creative and loved all forms of art. She was a baker, enjoyed crafts, calligraphy, and analyzing hand writing. She was a voracious reader, especially the bible. Beverly lived for family gatherings and spending time with those she loved most including her beloved dog, Wiggles, who recently preceded her in death. Those left to cherish Bev’s memory include her four children, Wesena (Daniel) Turner, of Petersburg, John (Lorraine) Powell of Indianapolis, James (Pamela) Powell of Hobe Sound, FL, and Christy (David) Hartley of Bedford; seven grandchildren, Paul (Becca) Turner, William (Sapphire) Turner, Wayne (Holly) Turner, Tiffany Powell, Joshua (Mamie) Powell, Bethany (Darin) Peters, and Ruthann Hartley; seven great-grandchildren, Daniel, Joseph, Samuel, Eleanor, Ethan, Braelyn, and Jaxson Turner; a brother, Benny



(Sharon) DeSpain of Cape Coral, FL, and several nieces and nephews. Awaiting Beverly when she arrived in Heaven was her much beloved sister, Zola James. Funeral services will be held at 7:00 pm Friday, January 15, 2021, at the Beech Grove Independent Nazarene Church, 5152 Hornet Ave. Beech Grove, Indiana, with Pastor Don Bates and Rev. Mark Mowery officiating. Friends may call from 5:00 – 7:00 pm before the funeral on Friday at the church. A graveside service will be held at 10:00 am Saturday, January 16, 2021, at the Oak Grove Cemetery of Reeve Township, in Washington, Indiana. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Sproles Family Funeral Home in New Castle. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be offered to the Nazarene Christian School, 5152 Hornet Ave., Beech Grove. IN 46107. You may send the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com. The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of Beverly Ann Powell.

Jordan Hudson

May 5, 1935 – Jan. 8, 2021

Jordan Hudson, 85, Roann, Indiana, died January 8, 2021. Jordan was born May 5, 1935 in Denver, Indiana, to the late Homer F. and Helen E. (Baker) Hudson. Jordan Hudson is survived by his sons, Charles E. “Chuck” (Ann) Hudson, Norman W. (Sue) Hudson, and Terry L. (Debbie) Hudson; brother, Dean (Barbara) Hud-

son; six grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. A public graveside service will be held Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at Enterprise Cemetery, 4581 East 1200 North, Roann, Indiana. The family of Jordan E. Hudson has entrusted McKee Mortuary with final arrangements.

Judith May Domin

Sept. 3, 1940 – Jan. 6, 2021

Judith May Domin, of Spring Hill, Tenn. died on Wednesday, Jan. 6. She was 80 years old. Known as Judy, she was born on Sept. 3, 1940 in Altoona, Pa. to Baltzer Boyles and Evelyn Koontz Boyles. She married the love of her life, John Domin, on July 1, 1961 in Altoona. Judy worked as an office administrator for several offices during her professional life, including a rubber company and an OB-GYN office. John and Judy raised their family in Wabash, Ind. and attended St. Bernard’s Catholic Church. They lived in Kingsport, Tenn. and later moved to Bluffton, S.C., where they were just a short drive to the



Atlantic Ocean. Judy was known for her love of adventure, joining her husband on RV trips to the Florida Keys and boating on a lake in Tennessee on their pontoon. She is survived by two daughters, Teresa Carpenter (Craig) and Christine Lamb; son, Thomas Domin; four granddaughters, Jenna Carpenter, Taylor Carpenter, Heather Raub (Tristan) and Abby Lamb; great-granddaughter, Sophia Raub; and great-grandson, Levi Raub. She was preceded in death by John, her parents and two sons, James John Domin and John James Domin Jr. Donations to the Alzheimer’s Association are being accepted. Arrangements will be made at a later date.

Recovered Midwestern bird soars off endangered species list

By JOHN FLESHER
AP Environmental Writer

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — The interior least tern, a hardy Midwestern bird that survived a craze for its plumage and dam-building that destroyed much of its habitat, has soared off the endangered species list. Federal officials said Tuesday that 35 years of legal protection and habitat restoration efforts had brought the tern back from the brink of extinction. “Dozens of states, federal agencies, tribes, businesses and conservation groups have worked tirelessly over the course of three decades to successfully recover these birds,” U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Aurelia Skipwith said.

The smallest members of the tern family, weighing less than 2 ounces, they feed mostly on small fish and build nests on the ground. While most least terns are considered seabirds, some species live by rivers, lakes and wetlands. Their most important nesting areas are along more than 2,800 miles of river channels in the Great Plains and the Lower Mississippi Valley. They migrate to the Caribbean and South America for the winter. Their numbers plummeted in the late 19th and early 20th centuries when their feathers became a popular feature of women’s hats. Then came a wave of dam and levee construction and other engineering measures to control Middle America’s great rivers – particularly the

Missouri and the Mississippi. Those structures wiped out much of the bird’s shoreline habitat. When listed as endangered in 1985 as a distinct population segment, fewer than 2,000 interior least terns remained, along with a few dozen nesting sites. The Army Corps of Engineers played a key role in the bird’s recovery, changing river management strategies and placing dredged material to create new nesting and dwelling spots for terns and other imperiled shorebirds such as the piping plover. The steps paid off. The interior least tern’s population is now estimated at more than 18,000, with about 480 nesting sites available in 18 states. The Endangered Species Act requires the Fish and Wildlife

Service to monitor the tern for at least five years to make sure its numbers remain stable. The engineering changes have drawn criticism and legal action from some Mississippi River farmers, who contend they have worsened flooding since the mid-2000s. But the Army Corps says it will continue conservation and monitoring efforts in an area affecting about 80 percent of the tern’s breeding population. Its partnership with other agencies and nonprofits has shown that “we can protect and recover an endangered species while continuing to provide critical navigation and flood control benefits to the nation,” said Major General Diana Holland, Commander of the Mississippi Valley Division of the Corps.

Grow Wabash County receives grant for student entrepreneurship

80/20 Foundation Trust gives \$15,750 in funding for the project

STAFF REPORT

Grow Wabash County is “starting strong in 2021” by receiving \$15,750 in grant funding from the 80/20 Foundation Trust to launch the Wabash County High School Entrepreneurship Collaborative for local students, according to project manager for marketing and events Chelsea Boulrisse. Boulrisse said this new collaborative will expand upon the groundwork laid out by Grow Wabash County, in partnership with Heartland Career Center, Manchester Community Schools, MSD of Wabash County and Wabash City Schools, to provide a dynamic, more streamlined entrepreneurship curriculum for students looking to get a head start in the competitive business world. “Entrepreneurship, for all ages, has long been a pillar of focus for Grow Wabash County,” said Grow Wabash County CEO and president Keith Gillenwater. “There is no shortage of great ideas in Wabash County, especially within our school districts and we think it is imperative that we allow for our students to explore this career path in the classroom. We are excited to create this program in our schools and we are grateful to the 80/20 Foundation Trust helping us become a hotbed of innovation and ideas for years to come.” Boulrisse said students participating in the entrepreneurship program will utilize the CO.STARTERS Generator curriculum which will walk them through every step in the process of starting a business and will include guest speakers and local professionals to help reinforce those lessons. Those students will then have oppor-

tunities to take what they have learned and work with fellow student entrepreneurs to apply those skills to real-world scenarios through a Wabash County chapter of the STARTEd-UP program. “Students are exploring their passions more deeply and are generating phenomenal ideas for potential activities,” said Manchester Jr.–Sr. High School business and entrepreneurship teacher Shelly Leifer. “The CO.STARTERS curriculum is making the prep work more manageable for me and for my students. I am so grateful for the support Manchester business students receive from Grow Wabash County and other passionate community members as they prepare for local and state pitch competitions.” Boulrisse said Grow Wabash County will also host its annual INnovate Wabash County pitch competition in the spring as well as encourage students to compete in the Innovate WithIN statewide pitch competition. These events will allow for students to demonstrate what they have learned and pitch their business ideas in front of panels made up of local business professionals, potential investors and other community leaders. “Grow Wabash County is grateful for the 80/20 Foundation’s partnership in this new collaborative to support some of Wabash County’s most enterprising young minds,” said Boulrisse. “Special thanks are also for the local business teachers, Brian Evans from Heartland Career Center, Shelly Leifer from Manchester Jr.–Sr. High School, Kari Johnson from Southwood Jr.–Sr. High School, Ted Bahney from Northfield Jr.-Sr. High School and Whitney Myers from Wabash High School, for buying into this new program and providing students with a unique opportunity to discover their passions through entrepreneurship.”

EU regulator is considering Oxford -AstraZeneca vaccine

LONDON (AP) — The European Medicines Agency said Tuesday that AstraZeneca and Oxford University have submitted an application for their COVID-19 vaccine to be licensed across the European Union. The EU regulator said it received a request for the vaccine to be greenlighted under an expedited process and that it could be approved by Jan. 29 “provided that the data submitted on the quality, safety and efficacy of the vaccine are sufficiently robust and complete.” The EMA, the drugs agency for the 27-nation EU, has already approved two other coronavirus vaccines, one made by American drugmaker Pfizer and Germany’s BioNTech and another made by U.S. biotechnology company Moderna. Switzerland approved the Moderna vaccine on Tuesday and plans to immunize about 4 percent of its population using that and the Pfizer-BioNTech shot. Britain gave its approval to the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine last month and has been using it. India approved it this month. As part of its strategy to obtain as many different COVID-19 vaccines as possible for Europeans, the EU said it had concluded early talks with French biotech company Valneva to secure up to 60 million doses of vaccine. Valneva previously signed a deal with Britain to provide tens of millions of doses of its shot, which is developed using similar technology to that used to make flu vaccines. The EU has sealed six vaccine contracts for up to 2 billion doses, many more than are necessary to cover its population of approximately 450 million. The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine is expected to be a key vaccine for many countries because of its low cost, availability and ease of use. It can be kept in refrigerators rather than the ultra-cold storage that the Pfizer vaccine requires. The company has said it will sell it for \$2.50 a dose and plans to make up to 3 billion doses by the end of 2021. Researchers claim the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine protected against disease in 62 percent of those given two full doses and in 90 percent of those initially given a half dose because of a manufacturing error. However, the second group included only 2,741 people – too few to be conclusive.

As pandemic worsens, most U.S. states resist restrictions

By **JULIE WATSON**
and **TERRY TANG**
Associated Press

PHOENIX — As the U.S. goes through the most lethal phase of the coronavirus outbreak yet, governors and local officials in hard-hit parts of the country are showing little willingness to impose any new restrictions on businesses to stop the spread.

And unlike in 2020, when the debate over lockdowns often split along party lines, both Democratic and Republican leaders are signaling their opposition to forced closings and other measures.

Some have expressed fear of compounding the heavy economic damage inflicted by the crisis. Some see little patience among their constituents for more restrictions 10 months into the crisis. And some seem to be focused more on the rollout of the vaccines that could eventually vanquish the threat.

The most notable change of tune came from New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat, who imposed a tough shutdown last spring as the state became the epicenter of the U.S. outbreak.

“We simply cannot stay closed until the vaccine hits critical mass. The cost is too high. We will have nothing left to open,” Cuomo said this week as confirmed infections in the state climbed to an average of 16,000 a day and deaths reached about 170 per day.

Theaters remain closed and there is no indoor dining in New York City, but Cuomo said Tuesday that if

a system of rapid virus tests could be developed, it could allow those things to return more safely.

In Arizona, where the pandemic is raging, Republican Gov. Doug Ducey has been steadfast in his opposition to a statewide mask mandate or the closing of bars, gyms and restaurant dining despite repeated calls from hospital leaders to take such steps.

“If we’re really all in this together, then we have to appreciate that for many families ‘lockdown’ doesn’t spell inconvenience; it spells catastrophe,” Ducey said.

Governors in other hot spots, including Texas, have expressed similar sentiments, while other states are loosening restrictions even as the U.S. death toll closes in on 380,000 and cases top 22.7 million. Deaths nationwide are running at more than 3,200 a day on average.

Minnesota allowed in-person dining to resume this week, and Michigan is set to do the same Friday. Nevada’s rules are set to expire Friday.

Even in states with strict measures in place, such as California, people are flouting the rules. On Monday, as intensive care units in Southern California found themselves jammed with patients, people packed beaches in San Diego to see this week’s high surf, many standing less than 6 feet apart with no masks.

Other Americans have ignored the rules as well. U.S. tourists flocked to Mexico’s Caribbean coast over Christmas and New Year’s, while thousands of University of Alabama foot-

ball fans crowded into bars Monday night to celebrate the school’s national championship.

More than 9.3 million Americans have received their first shot of the vaccine, according to the Centers for the Disease Control and Prevention, a slow rollout for a campaign that will have to inoculate perhaps 85 percent percent of the population, or over a quarter-million people, to conquer the outbreak.

On Tuesday, the Trump administration announced plans to speed things up by releasing practically twice as much vaccine, instead of holding large quantities in reserve to make sure that people received the required second dose on time. The practice of holding back doses was spurred by fear of production delays, but officials said they are now confident the supply will be there.

The Trump administration also asked states to immediately start vaccinating other groups lower down the priority scale, including the estimated 54 million Americans 65 and older, as well as younger people with certain health problems. Several states had already begun offering shots to senior citizens over the past few days.

But experts warn that life is unlikely to get back to normal any time soon. Vaccinating enough Americans to stop the virus could take well into the second half of 2021, by some estimates.

“We’re at a really critical point right now,” said Dr. Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo, head of epidemiology at the University of California,

San Francisco. “On the one hand, it is clear with vaccines that we have light at the end of the tunnel, but it is also pretty clear it’s going to be a pretty long tunnel.”

California is an outlier, with a strict lockdown in most of the state that has limited restaurants to take-out and delivery and shuttered hair salons and gyms.

California’s COVID-19 death toll reached 30,000 on Monday. Hospitals in Los Angeles are so swamped that patients on gurneys are being treated in gift shops and parking lots. Officials started urging people to wear masks even at home if they go outside regularly and live with someone elderly or otherwise at high risk.

Anger over the restrictions has led to a recall movement against Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom that has nearly gathered the 1.5 million signatures needed to put his career to a vote.

Some Californians are escaping by heading to neighboring Arizona, where they can eat and drink at bars and restaurants.

Bartender Raul Amaya, who works at Carly’s Bistro in Phoenix, said he is grateful for the business since it keeps him employed. Everyone, he said, needs a break.

“I think every time there has been a closure in different states, a lot more influx of different people from different states has come in,” he said. “The only reason I’ve noticed it is they want a drink and we have to ask for ID from everybody. So, I was like ‘Oh, this is a lot of California or Nevada IDs.’”

Michigan plans to charge ex-Gov. Snyder in Flint water probe

By **ED WHITE**
and **DAVID EGGERT**
Associated Press

DETROIT — Former Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, his health director and other ex-officials have been told they’re being charged after a new investigation of the Flint water scandal, which devastated the majority Black city with lead-contaminated water and was blamed for a deadly outbreak of Legionnaires’ disease in 2014-15, The Associated Press has learned.

Two people with knowledge of the planned prosecution told the AP on Tuesday that the attorney general’s office has informed defense lawyers about indictments in Flint and told them to expect initial court appearances soon. They spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly.

The AP could not determine the nature of the charges against Snyder, former health department director Nick Lyon and others who were in his administration, including Rich Baird, a friend who was the governor’s key troubleshooter while in office.

Courtney Covington Watkins, a spokeswoman for the attorney general’s office, said only that investigators were “working diligently” and “will share more as soon as we’re in a position to do so.”

Snyder’s attorney, Brian Lennon, released a blistering statement, saying a criminal prosecution would be “outrageous.” He said state prosecutors have refused to “share information about these charges with us.”

“Rather than following the evidence to find the truth, the Office of Special Counsel appears to be targeting former Gov. Snyder in a political escape,” Lennon said.

Snyder, a Republican who has been out of office for two years, was governor when state-appointed managers in Flint switched the city’s water to the Flint River in 2014 as a cost-saving step while a pipeline was being built to Lake Huron. The water, however, was not treated to reduce corrosion – a disastrous decision affirmed by state regulators that caused lead to leach from old pipes and spoil the distribution system used by nearly 100,000 residents.

The disaster made Flint a nationwide symbol of gov-

ernmental mismanagement, with residents lining up for bottled water and parents fearing that their children had suffered permanent harm. Lead can damage the brain and nervous system and cause learning and behavior problems. The crisis was highlighted as an example of environmental injustice and racism.

At the same time, bacteria in the water was blamed for an outbreak of Legionnaires’. Legionella bacteria can emerge through misting and cooling systems, triggering a severe form of pneumonia, especially in people with weakened immune systems. Authorities counted at least 90 cases in Genesee County, including 12 deaths.

The outbreak was announced by Snyder and Lyon in January 2016, although Lyon conceded that he knew that cases were being reported many months earlier.

In 2018, Lyon was ordered to stand trial on involuntary manslaughter charges after a special prosecutor accused him of failing to timely inform the public about the outbreak. His attorneys argued there was not enough solid information to share earlier with the public.

By June 2019, the entire Flint water investigation was turned upside down after more than three years and millions of dollars. Prosecutors working under a new attorney general, Dana Nessel, dismissed the case against Lyon as well as charges against seven more people and said the probe would start anew.

The decision didn’t affect seven people who had already pleaded no contest to misdemeanors. They cooperated with investigators and their records were eventually scrubbed clean.

Testimony at court hearings had raised questions about when Snyder knew about the Legionnaires’ outbreak. His urban affairs adviser, Harvey Hollins, told a judge that the governor was informed on Christmas Eve 2015. But Snyder had told reporters three weeks later, in January 2016, that he had just learned about it.

Baird’s attorney, Randy Levine, said he was informed Monday that his client would face charges.

“When the Flint water crisis hit, he wasn’t assigned by Gov. Snyder to go to Flint, but rather he raised his hand and volunteered,” Levine said.

The power of words in crisis: Who hits mark, and who misses?

By **MICHAEL TACKETT**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In moments of crisis, of war and terror, of loss and mourning, American leaders have sought to utter words to match the moment in hope that the power of oratory can bring order to chaos and despair.

Lincoln at Gettysburg. Franklin Roosevelt during the Depression and World War II. Reagan after the Challenger disaster. Bill Clinton after the Oklahoma City bombing. George W. Bush with a bullhorn at Ground Zero in 2001 and Barack Obama after the slaughter of congregants at a South Carolina church.

Each time, the speakers, Republican and Democrat, extemporaneously or with a script, managed to sound notes that brought at least a temporary sense of national unity and purpose.

“I really think there is something at the very core of our humanity that only words can satisfy,” said Wayne Fields, author of “Union of Words: A History of Presidential Eloquence,” and a professor at Washington University in St. Louis. “Almost as much as our need to be touched in the most desperate of circumstances is our need to be spoken to. Public despair in particular has to be literally addressed, I think, if it is to be overcome, must be articulated and then transcended.”

In the aftermath of a violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, a cathedral of democracy, President Donald Trump did not meet that prescription. He scaled the walls of false equivalency and descended into the canyons of conspiracy.

He stirred the riotous mob with his “fight like hell” speech before his supporters marched to the Capitol, then delivered a tepid appeal for nonviolence, telling his supporters he loved them. This came well after the man voters chose to succeed him, President-elect Joe Biden,

had summoned outrage, empathy and a sense of a path forward.

Trump has never been much for the big speech. Those he has given, like his Oval Office address about the pandemic in March, contained more than one large error. His preferred medium was Twitter, where his 280-characters-at-a-time rhetoric was a study in hortatory rather than oratory. And by Friday, Twitter had shut down his account permanently.

The oratory of crisis typically consists of either a formal statement or an extemporaneous speech. Bush’s initial speech after 9/11 was not particularly well received. But his appearance in the rubble of the World Trade Center bombing was considered one of his finest moments, in which he found just the right words when speaking to rescue workers who said, “I can’t hear you.”

Using a bullhorn, Bush responded: “I can hear you! I can hear you! The rest of the world hears you. And the people who knocked these buildings down will hear all of us soon.”

Other presidents have made more direct appeals for healing. Ronald Reagan, poised to deliver a State of the Union address, had to pivot to address the national tragedy of the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger, and the loss of its crew of seven, including the teacher Christa McAuliffe.

“I know it is hard to understand, but sometimes painful things like this happen,” Reagan said. “It’s all part of the process of exploration and discovery. It’s all part of taking a chance and expanding man’s horizons. The future doesn’t belong to the fainthearted; it belongs to the brave. The Challenger crew was pulling us into the future, and we’ll continue to follow them.”

Clinton was known for his feel-your-pain persona, on display after the Oklahoma City bombing. “You have lost too much, but you have

not lost everything,” he said. “And you have certainly not lost America, for we will stand with you for as many tomorrows as it takes.”

After the killing of congregants at Mother Emanuel church in Charleston, South Carolina, Obama sang the hymn “Amazing Grace” and also challenged the nation. “At some point,” he said, “we as a country will have to reckon with the fact that this type of mass violence does not happen in other advanced countries. It doesn’t happen in other places with this kind of frequency. And it is in our power to do something about it.”

Unlike Trump, Biden was unsparing in his remarks after the insurrection at the Capitol about where blame lay. “They weren’t protesters,” Biden said. “Don’t dare call them protesters. They were a riotous mob, insurrectionists, domestic terrorists. It’s that basic. It’s that simple.”

But Biden also promised a better day ahead, saying that the rioters did not represent the “true America.”

“Oratory in such times, just by being composed at a time when things are falling apart, reassures and opens a door for positive responses and for hope,” Fields said. “Ironically, in being spoken to we can be reassured that we are being heard, that the fears and emotions we have been too distressed to compose, can be articulated, can be expressed.”

Most times, presidents themselves don’t write the words that are most remembered, but their speechwriters know their voice and sentiments. Obama and Clinton heavily edited their speeches; Lincoln wrote many of his own. The most memorable words from Trump’s inaugural address were about the need to end an “American carnage” that existed mostly in his own mind.

Soon, Biden’s words will be the ones the nation examines. He has a mixed history with oratory. His first presidential campaign ended

largely because he appropriated language from a British politician, Neil Kinnock, a literary theft that today seems almost benign. But Biden even then, in 1987, was also known for his ability to use words, albeit sometimes too many of them.

The president-elect is fond of both lofty rhetoric spoken with an eye to history and the common language of the union hall. He will need to summon both in the days ahead, navigating the fractious end to the Trump presidency and imploring the nation to turn the page.

The word crisis has its origins in the Greek language. Loosely translated, it means the stage of a disease where one lives or dies. It can be overused in the modern context, but few would argue the American democracy is not facing one. The challenge for crisis oratory is to not underplay the severity of the problem or foster a new sense of panic.

The most effective oratory has, at its core, a sense of authenticity, which plays to Biden’s strength.

“Words matter. Words can explain, inspire, console, and heal. In the past, presidents have tried to do these things, with various degrees of success,” said John J. Pitney, a professor of politics at Claremont McKenna College, adding: “Trump is unique in that he has made things much worse.”

On Tuesday, as he was leaving for an event to boast about wall construction at the Mexican border, Trump had another chance to soothe the public. He chose instead to focus on blaming others.

“This impeachment is causing tremendous anger, as you’re doing it, and it’s really a terrible thing that they’re doing,” Trump said. “For Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer, to continue on this path. I think it’s causing tremendous danger to our country, and it’s causing tremendous anger. I want no violence. Thank you.”

Pandemic has imperiled plans to retrieve Titanic’s radio

By **BEN FINLEY**
Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — Fallout from the coronavirus pandemic is threatening a company’s plans to retrieve and exhibit the radio that had broadcast distress calls from the sinking Titanic, according to a court filing made by the firm.

The company, RMS Titanic Inc., said Monday that its revenues plummeted after coronavirus restrictions closed its exhibits of Titanic artifacts, causing the firm to seek funding through its parent company. Some of the exhibitions, which are scattered across the country, are still closed, while others that have reopened are seeing limited attendance.

RMS Titanic Inc. recently missed a deadline with a federal admiralty court in Virginia to submit a funding plan for the radio expedition. The company left open the possibility that it may no longer seek the court’s approval for the undertaking if a plan isn’t submitted in the coming weeks.

The company’s update, filed with a U.S. District Court in Norfolk, was made in the midst of an ongoing court battle with the United States over whether the expedition is legal.

Lawyers for the U.S. government have argued that the mission is barred under federal law and an international agreement with Britain. The attorneys say the company must seek the government’s permission to

remove the radio because the sunken vessel is a recognized memorial to the roughly 1,500 people who died.

The luxury ocean liner was traveling from England to New York in 1912 when it struck an iceberg and sank. It was discovered in 1985 about 2.4 miles below the surface of the North Atlantic.

RMS Titanic Inc. owns the salvage rights and oversees a collection of items recovered from the wreck as the court-recognized steward of the artifacts. They include silverware, china and gold coins as well as the Titanic’s whistles and a piece of its hull.

Exhibiting the radio will help sustain the ship’s legacy while honoring passengers and crew, the company has argued. Known in 1912 as a Marconi wireless telegraph machine, the radio sent distress calls to nearby ships that helped save 700 people in lifeboats.

The U.S. government’s effort to stop the expedition is pending in the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond. But the company’s funding woes appear to pose a more immediate threat.

“The pandemic and resulting governmental restrictions forced the company to temporarily close its exhibitions to the public, effectively shutting off its primary source of revenue for six months,” RMS Titanic Inc. wrote in Monday’s filing.



Provided photo
Tiara Jackson paced the Spartans with her second double-double of the season, finishing with 11 points and a game-high 17 rebounds.

Late surge falls short as Spartans fall to Panthers

MU women's basketball team dropped a 69-65 decision against Hanover College

By DILLON BENDER

Manchester University's comeback bid fell just short on Saturday afternoon, as the visiting Hanover College Panthers clipped the Spartans by a final score of 69-65 in Stauffer-Wolfe Arena.

Saturday's women's hoops action marked the first game for the Black and Gold since Nov. 21. Saturday's game was the first contest in over 300 days for the Panthers.

Trailing by 10 with two and a half minutes remaining in regulation, Miranda Bieghler, from Plainfield and South Putnam High School, knocked down a triple and Tiara Jackson, from East Chicago and Central High School, banked home a layup to slice the Panther lead in half.

With 1:14 remaining,

Bieghler made a pair of free throws to pull the Spartans within three, 62-59. After a quick Panther bucket, Bridget Nash, from Carmel and Bishop Chatard High School, answered right back with a driving layup through traffic.

With enough time on the clock to play out a stop, the Manchester defense came up just short on its next defensive possession. Hanover's Maddi Sears was able to draw a foul and converted a pair of free throws to ice the game for the visiting Panthers.

Manchester finished Saturday's game 20-57 (35.1 percent) from the field. The Spartans struggled from beyond the arc, shooting 4-20 (20 percent). The Black & Gold shot 21-35 (60 percent) from the free-throw line.

Hanover finished 22-63

(34.9 percent) shooting for the game. The Panthers went 5-17 (29.4 percent) from downtown and shot 20-33 (60.6 percent) from the charity stripe.

Tiara Jackson paced the Spartans with her second double-double of the season, finishing with 11 points and a game-high 17 rebounds. Bridget Nash scored 15 points while Miranda Bieghler chipped in 13 points.

Bailey Keim, from Denver, Indiana and North Miami High School, scored 10 points.

Hanover (1-0) was led by Savannah Courtney's 15 points.

Manchester (0-6) will travel to Earlham College on Friday, Jan. 15 for a 5:30 meeting with the Quakers.

Attached is a photo of Tiara Jackson.

Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.



Provided photo
Shooting guard Matt Westman, from Michigan City, was also named a "Player to Watch" by the league on Monday.

HCAC announces preseason poll

Three Spartan seniors were named 'Players to Watch'

By DILLON BENDER

With the 2020-21 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference men's basketball season set to officially begin this weekend, the Transylvania University Pioneers have been selected to repeat as league-leaders this season, in a vote amongst league coaches announced on Monday, Jan. 11.

The Pioneers picked up 80 points to claim the first place slot. Not far behind, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology was picked to finish second with 71 points with Franklin College (64), Hanover College (62) and Anderson University (54)

rounding out the top five, respectively.

Manchester University was tabbed eighth in Monday's poll. The Spartans played one game during the fall semester, an 84-81 road triumph at Adrian College.

Three Spartan seniors were named "Players to Watch" by the HCAC on Monday morning. Senior point guard Cortiz Buckner, from Lafayette and Lafayette Jefferson High School, has played in 50 career games for MU, amassing 386 career points and 146 assists. Buckner also has 57 career steals to his credit.

Shooting guard Matt Westman, from Michigan City, was also named a "Player to Watch" by the league on Monday. Westman has appeared in 72 contests, starting 47 of those in his Black and Gold career. A season ago, Westman averaged 9.2 points

per game while knocking in 47 three-pointers.

Forward CJ Hampton, from Hammond and Griffith High School, was the third Spartan named a "Player to Watch." Hampton has made 59 starts and 73 appearances in his Black & Gold career. A season ago, Hampton led MU in both scoring and rebounding, posting averages of 12.7 ppg and 6.8 rpg.

The Spartans will look to resume their season on Friday, Jan. 15 with a home contest against Earlham College. Tip from Stauffer-Wolfe Arena is scheduled for 5 p.m. The most current version on the MU men's basketball schedule may be found on muspartans.com.

Attached is a photo of Matt Westman.

Dillon Bender is sports information director for Manchester University.

Southwood boys basketball take the win from Wabash

On Friday, Jan. 15, the Knights travel to Whitko, Apaches head to Manchester

By ALINA REED

Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

On Friday, Jan. 8, the Southwood Knights boys junior varsity and varsity teams hosted the Wabash Apaches.

The junior varsity team kicked off the contest for the night. The Knights held their own and continued to keep the Apaches on their toes. The final score ended in a win for Southwood leaving the scoreboard at 53-31.

Freshman Will Winer scored 13 points, two rebounds and two steals. Sophomore Nathan Lehner score nine points, three rebounds and four steals. Sophomore Kaden Rody scored eight points, seven rebounds and two steals for the night.

Starting for the Southwood varsity game was senior Alex Farr, sophomore Cole Winer, senior Carson Rich, senior Connor Rich and senior Dawson Filip. Junior Andrew Dinkins, senior Jarrett Wilson, senior Keegan O'Neill, freshman Izaak Wright and sophomore Colten Learned started for the Wabash Apaches.

Throughout the first quarter, Southwood left Wabash in the dust. Farr, Rich, Winer and Filip were able to score the Knights to 17 points within the first quarter. Wabash senior Bryant Boggs was able to score two points. The final score for the first quarter was left at 17-2.

Starting the second quarter, Filip, Winer, senior Logan Barley and Connor Rich each poured in points for Southwood. Dinkins and freshman Kaden Vogel were able to add to the scoreboard for Wabash.



Photo by Alina Reed / Plain Dealer
Southwood senior Carson Rich goes for the dunk, as Wabash sophomore Kolton Smith attempts to block.

The scoreboard at halftime read 37-9. Southwood was determined to continue to hold its ground.

For the second half, the Knights continued to perform and show out as they continued to pull away from Wabash. The Apaches did their best to catch up to the Knights but were unsuccessful for the night. The final score came to 53-31.

Carson Rich score 14 points, two rebounds and four assists. Filip scored 11 points, 10 rebounds, four assists, two steals and one block for the night. Winer poured in 10 points, six rebounds, two steals and two blocks.

"As a team, we struggled

to get going with making too many early turnovers," said Filip. "We showed out tonight but holding Wabash to 7.5 points per quarter."

"I love the competitiveness that comes with our team," said Carson Rich. "Everyone tries hard in practice and we strive to make each other better every day."

Southwood hosted Oak Hill on Tuesday, Jan. 12.

And on Friday, Jan. 15, the Knights will also be traveling to Whitko at 7 p.m., and Wabash will be traveling to Manchester at 6 p.m.

Alina Reed, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplainealer.com.

SCOREBOARD

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Indiana High School Basketball Poll

CLASS 4A

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. Lawrence North (11)	9-0	272	1
2. Carmel (2)	10-0	250	2
3. Homestead (1)	12-0	230	3
4. Lafayette Jeff	11-0	187	4
5. Indpls Cathedral	9-1	153	6
6. S. Bend Adams	10-0	142	7
7. Westfield	8-1	127	5
8. Indianapolis Attacks	10-2	119	8
9. Zionsville	7-3	74	9
10. Crown Point	4-0	46	T10

Others receiving votes: Gary West 44, Greenwood 8, Plainfield 8, Carroll (Allen) 7, Chesterton 7, Bloomington North 6.

CLASS 3A

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. Heritage Hills (10)	7-0	252	1
2. Hammond (4)	6-1	242	2
3. Silver Creek	8-2	221	3
4. Ev. Bosse	5-0	202	4
5. Leo	9-0	161	7
6. S. Bend St. Joseph's	7-2	117	9
7. Mishawaka Marian	7-2	113	6
8. Sullivan	8-1	112	8
9. Greensburg	6-2	91	5
10. Danville	4-1	50	10

Others receiving votes: Peru 35, Connorsville 30, Guerin Catholic 30, Beech Grove 14, Delta 10.

CLASS 2A

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. Ft. Wayne Blackhawk (14)	10-0	280	1
2. Shenandoah	9-3	240	2
3. Linton-Stockton	12-2	209	4
4. S. Spencer	9-2	174	3
5. Blackford	7-2	166	T5
6. Westview	7-2	118	T5
7. Parke Heritage	10-2	111	8
8. Central Noble	9-1	107	9
9. Indpls Covenant Christian	9-1	103	7
10. Southwestern (Jefferson)	9-1	52	NR

Others receiving votes: S. Ripley 33, Eastern Hancock 30, Madison-Grant 16, Northeastern 14, Churubusco 9, Ev. Mater Dei 6, Lake Station 6, Andream 6.

CLASS 1A

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. Barr-Reeve (14)	10-2	280	1
2. Kouts	9-1	252	2
3. Loogootee	9-2	208	4
4. Bloomfield	5-1	179	3
5. N. Daviess	9-1	177	5
6. Edinburg	10-2	128	7
7. Covington	4-2	127	8
8. Morristown	7-3	103	6

9. Indpls Lutheran	8-2	56	NR
(tie) Tindley	6-4	56	NR
Others receiving votes:	Jac-Cen-Del 46,		
Lafayette Catholic 26,	Triton 23,	Washington	
Twp. 7, Ev. Christian 6,	Lanesville 6.		

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

AP Top 25 Men's Basketball Poll

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Gonzaga (63)	12-0	1599	2
2. Baylor (1)	11-0	1536	1
3. Villanova	8-1	1436	3
4. Texas	10-1	1422	4
5. Iowa	11-2	1322	5
6. Kansas	10-2	1220	6
7. Michigan	10-0	1161	10
8. Creighton	10-2	1151	7
9. Wisconsin	10-2	1110	8
10. Tennessee	9-1	1093	9
11. Houston	10-1	993	11
12. Clemson	9-1	747	19
13. West Virginia	9-4	701	14
14. Illinois	9-4	694	12
15. Texas Tech	10-3	689	18
16. Louisville	8-1	464	-
17. Missouri	7-2	436	13
18. Virginia	7-2	403	22
19. Duke	5-2	397	21
20. Virginia Tech	9-2	286	19
21. Ohio St.	9-2	280	-
22. Oregon	9-2	264	17
23. Minnesota	10-4	233	16
24. Saint Louis	7-1	220	23
25. UConn	6-1	181	-

Others receiving votes: Alabama 173, UCLA 137, Colorado 96, Florida St. 74, Southern Cal 48, Rutgers 46, Drake 42, Michigan St. 34, Oklahoma St. 28, Arkansas 24, San Diego St. 10, Boise St. 8, Florida 7, Xavier 7, LSU 7, Northwestern 6, Tulsa 5, NC State 5, Indiana 2, Winthrop 2, Belmont 1.

NBA

Wednesday's Games

Dallas at Charlotte, 7 p.m.	
Milwaukee at Detroit, 7 p.m.	
Utah at Washington, 7 p.m.	
Brooklyn at New York, 7:30 p.m.	
Orlando at Boston, 7:30 p.m.	
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.	
Memphis at Minnesota, 8 p.m.	
Atlanta at Phoenix, 9 p.m.	
New Orleans at L.A. Clippers, 10 p.m.	
Portland at Sacramento, 10 p.m.	

Thursday's Games

Charlotte at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.	
Miami at Phila., 7:30 p.m.	

Houston at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.	
Golden State at Denver, 10 p.m.	
Indiana at Portland, 10 p.m.	

Friday's Games

Washington at Detroit, 7 p.m.	
Dallas at Milwaukee, 7:30 p.m.	
New York at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.	
Orlando at Boston, 7:30 p.m.	
Chicago at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.	
Memphis at Minnesota, 8 p.m.	
Atlanta at Utah, 9 p.m.	
Golden State at Phoenix, 9 p.m.	
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 10 p.m.	
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m.	

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Monday, Jan. 11

COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Miami Gardens, Fla.

No. 1 Alabama 52, No. 3 Ohio St. 24

NFL

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Saturday, Jan. 16

Los Angeles Rams at Green Bay, 4:35 p.m.

Baltimore at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 17

Cleveland at Kansas City, 3:05 p.m.

Tampa Bay at New Orleans, 6:40 p.m.

NHL

Wednesday's Games

Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.	
Montreal at Toronto, 7 p.m.	
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 8 p.m.	
Vancouver at Edmonton, 10 p.m.	
St. Louis at Colorado, 10:30 p.m.	

Thursday's Games

Boston at New Jersey, 7 p.m.	
N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.	
Washington at Buffalo, 7 p.m.	
Carolina at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.	
Calgary at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.	
Columbus at Nashville, 8 p.m.	
San Jose at Arizona, 9 p.m.	
Vancouver at Edmonton, 9 p.m.	
Anaheim at Vegas, 10 p.m.	
Minnesota at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.	
Dallas at Florida, p.p.d.	

Friday's Games

Chicago at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.	
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.	
Toronto at Ottawa, 7 p.m.	
Washington at Buffalo, 7 p.m.	
St. Louis at Colorado, 9 p.m.	
Baltim at Florida, p.p.d.	

'It was a bust': Colts' early end serves as motivation for 2021

By MICHAEL MAROT

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indianapolis Colts coach Frank Reich figured he'd spend Monday preparing for another game. So did his players.

Instead, they started pondering their futures.

After winning 11 games and sneaking into the playoffs for the second time since 2015, the Colts took no solace from pushing second-seeded Buffalo to the brink in Saturday's 27-24 wild-card loss.

"For me it was Super Bowl

or bust, so it was a bust," All Pro defensive tackle DeForest Buckner said. "We need to go into the offseason and work on our craft. You've got to think of those moments where we let it just sleep between our fingers."

Where did it go wrong?

On offense, the Colts (11-6) consistently struggled on third downs and settled for field goals in the red zone. Defensively, Indy had trouble stringing together four quarters of good play — especially late in the season.

The combination forced

Indy to hit the road for the playoffs. And while the defense played better against the Bills and the offense converted 53 percent of its third-down chances, the red-zone bugaboo sunk Indy's title hopes.

Yes, the Colts scored two TDs inside the Bills 20. They also settled for a 30-yard field goal, turned over the ball on downs at the Buffalo 4, and missed a 33-yard field goal. Indy knows that must change next season.

"You look right there, that's the difference in the game,"

quarterback Philip Rivers said after perhaps playing the final game of his 17-year NFL career. "We played good. We didn't play well enough."

Rivers' future will be one of many tough decisions the Colts face before April's draft.

If Reich had his way, he'd bring back everyone for another run at a championship. But Reich knows changes are coming, and Indy must improve to reach the top.

"Make no mistake about it, we have one goal and that is win a world championship," he said. "After that it is to

win more. But by not reaching our goal (this season), it doesn't mean we didn't gain anything, it doesn't mean we didn't grow. I believe we did and it will help us as we begin that journey again next year."

Rivers' plan

Many thought Rivers would walk away last season. Instead, the 38-year-old QB signed a one-year deal with the Colts and played his best ball over the final 12 games of the season.

Reich made it clear Saturday and Sunday he wants

Rivers back.

Two big questions remain, though. First, Reich must meet with general manager Chris Ballard, and, of course, Rivers must choose to come back.

"Whatever God's will is for me and my family — if it's here, in Indy playing another year then we'll be here," Rivers said during a sometimes emotional postgame news conference. "If it's not, I'll be on the sideline with a ball cap coaching the heck out of a high school football team down in south Alabama."

Busy mom fights to prevent frustrations from exploding

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 24-year-old woman who has been married for four years. My husband, "Jerry," and I have two young boys. Jerry is military. I stay at home with the kids and work part time online on an associate degree. We struggle financially, but our basic needs are met and, overall, I'm happy with my life.

Dear Abby



My problem is I'm finding myself struggling to control a very strong temper. The kids or my husband may be getting on my nerves, or I'm late turning in an assignment, or I'm unable to get housework done – these frustrations build up inside and make me want to throw a fit, scream or throw things, essentially NOT be the cool, responsible adult I typically am.

I know this is incredibly immature, and I realize I'm well off in the grand scheme of things, but this anger still brews. I have never had a problem controlling my temper before. Can you help? – Fired Up In Florida

DEAR FIRED UP: The quarantines and lockdowns may be part of the cause of your near meltdowns. Many people are stressed and spread thin, and the isolation isn't helping.

Because you are constantly with your children, it's important that you manage your emotions before venting them on your little ones, which can be destructive. When an adult yells or acts out in front of a small child, the child will often shut down out of fear that violence may follow. This is why it's so important for you to find appropriate ways to express your emotions. My booklet "The Anger in All of Us and How To Deal With It" offers suggestions for directing angry feelings in a healthy way. It can be ordered by sending your name and address, plus a check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. Sometimes when people are frustrated, they lose their temper with those presently around them. In situations like this, it's important to evaluate the source of what might really be irritating you rather than misdirect your anger at a blameless target. The ability to control your emotions is crucial so your children won't grow up thinking that exploding is normal. There are healthy ways of dealing with frustration. Among them: leaving the room, going for a walk or, better yet, a short run, or saying to yourself, "Please, Lord, don't let me lose my temper!" before opening your mouth.

DEAR ABBY: My boss has been making passes at me for the last five months, even though I have told him it makes me uncomfortable. We went out to dinner once, and he is insisting that we do it again. How do I say no to this married man and still keep my job? – Uncomfortable In The South

DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE: Ask your employer if he is satisfied with your job performance. Tell him a social relationship with a married man is not what you signed on for and, if he becomes punitive, document it and point out that what he is doing could be considered sexual harassment.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Make a note
- 4 Pass near Pikes Peak
- 7 Ms. Peel of "The Avengers"
- 11 Use a charge card
- 12 Soft shoes
- 14 Young beef
- 15 Dutch airline
- 16 Wave cutter
- 17 Water, in Tijuana
- 18 — de corps
- 20 Decree officially
- 22 Tax agcy.
- 23 Beluga product
- 24 Degrade
- 27 Flotsam and —
- 30 Retina cell
- 31 Places for pints
- 32 Photo
- 34 Preschooler
- 35 Overwhelm with humor
- 36 Darth Vader, once

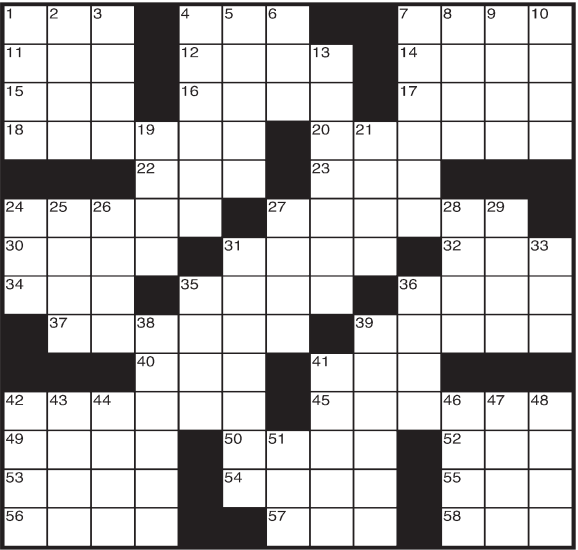
37 Baby cat

- 39 Radio, TV, etc.
- 40 Cabinet dept.
- 41 Zilch
- 42 Swinging off course
- 45 Claim
- 49 Declare
- 50 Camelot lady
- 52 Mr. Brynner
- 53 Cheery tone
- 54 Use a spring-board
- 55 Hosp. areas
- 56 Swirling water
- 57 Apiece
- 58 Unpaid, as a bill

Answer to Previous Puzzle



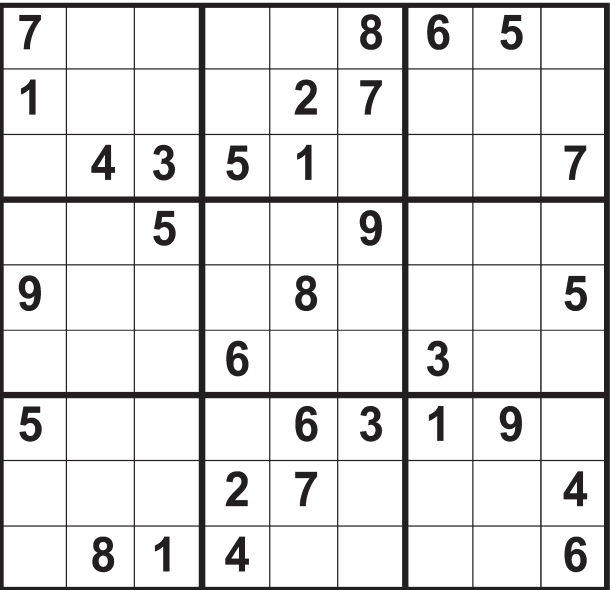
- 7 Finds a loophole
- 8 Prefix for "million"
- 9 Pineapple island
- 10 Actor — Thicke
- 13 Had great faith in (2 wds.)
- 19 Stand up
- 21 Decays
- 24 Behave
- 25 Library volume
- 26 Debate side
- 27 Evita's hubby
- 28 Imitated
- 29 Dress length
- 31 Vowed
- 33 KGB counterpart
- 35 Phaser setting
- 36 Set
- 38 Days in June
- 39 Gentler
- 41 Wet behind the ears
- 42 Type of lock
- 43 Eager
- 44 Fuse together
- 46 Took a gander
- 47 Hindu teacher
- 48 What — can I do?
- 51 Pinch off



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆



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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION								
1	6	2	3	4	9	7	8	5
3	7	8	6	2	5	4	1	9
9	5	4	7	8	1	6	2	3
7	9	6	8	3	4	2	5	1
5	2	1	9	7	6	3	4	8
8	4	3	1	5	2	9	7	6
6	1	7	2	9	8	5	3	4
4	3	9	5	1	7	8	6	2
2	8	5	4	6	3	1	9	7

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CRAGI

TAFIH

SYWILE

TWUITO

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



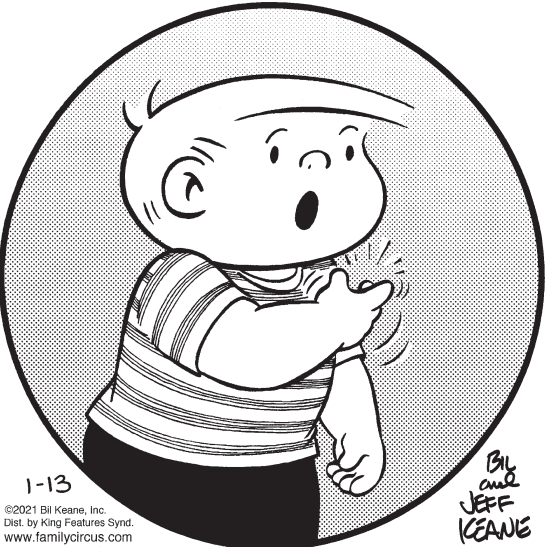
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: DOILY FLUID THORNY DRAGON Answer: He had the small dent in his wife's car repaired to keep her from — "FIND-DING" OUT

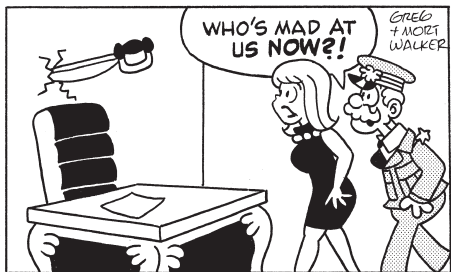
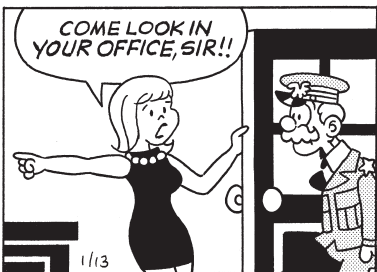
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

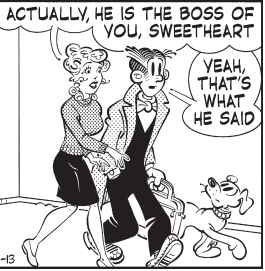
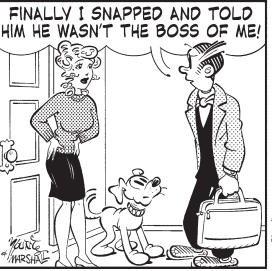


"How come my fingers can only fire blank sounds?"

BEEBLE BAILEY



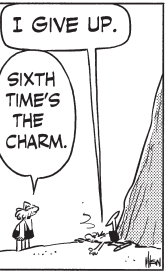
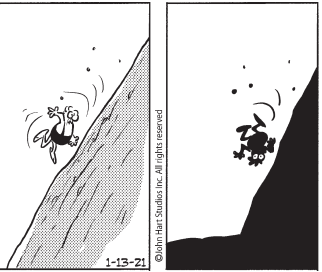
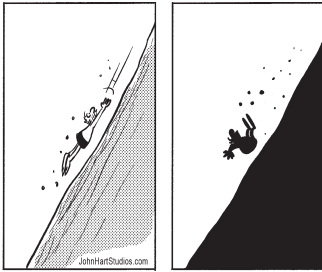
BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



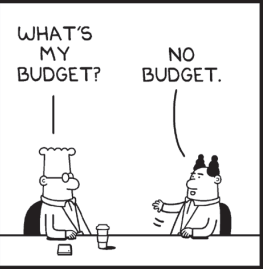
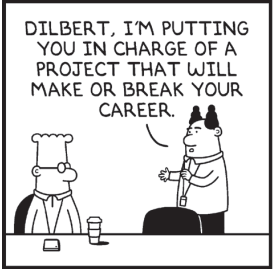
BC



WIZARD OF ID



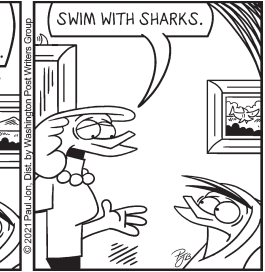
DILBERT



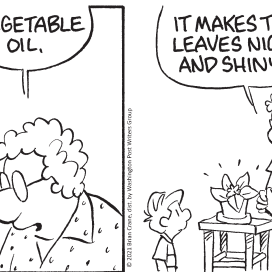
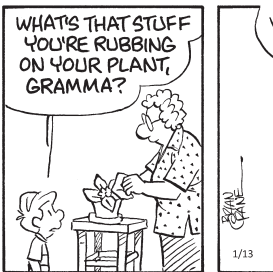
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



Pride flees when we compare ourselves to God

Q: My friend says he is both prideful and humble. Is it possible to be both? – P.H.

A: The book of wisdom says with pride comes shame (Proverbs 11:2). Proverbs is a marvelous little book to read daily. There are thirty-one chapters – one for each day of the month. It teaches man how to get along with others and overflows with wisdom.

A longtime friend calls each day of the month by its corresponding proverb. It is never the first of the month, but Proverbs 1 Day. Instead of the 22nd of the month, she calls it Proverbs 22 Day. What an uplifting thought; to begin each day with wise nuggets of truth from God's Word.

When He sees us walking by His truth, it pleases the Lord. The opposite of pride is humility. We are command-

ed to seek the Lord and His righteousness and humility (Zephaniah 2:3). This is difficult especially in our world today.

In the world today, society is self-focused. The culture shouts, "Me, myself, and I!" This is dangerous and we must be on the alert and police our hearts, asking God to convict us when we have your eyes turned inward. Pride comes from looking only at ourselves; meekness comes through looking at God. Sin gathers up all that violates a Holy God and keeps souls from entering God's wonder-

ful eternal home. But pride is pivotal – it stirs up everything that is against the Lord, including lying.

The Bible teaches that we should think more highly of others than we think of ourselves (Philippians 2:3). This is made very difficult today by self-help books and seminars, advertisements, and entertainment that fill our minds with bolstering our self-confidence.

Pride flees when we compare ourselves to God. Humility causes us to look outward to others, and most of all upward to God.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"JC XTPNX ... BN'U XJFUNE VMT
EJOIBVNXU JGE J UTG. JGE F CTLN
BFK. ... BN'U J UVXJFIBV UBTTVNX."
— VJ KXTG BJCC

Previous Solution: "Until you have kids, you can't imagine how much you could possibly love a human being." — Megan Fox

TODAY'S CLUE: n sjenbe o

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

1 Peter 2:9

Restoring democracy starts with removing Trump

With Congress poised to consider articles of impeachment this week, lawmakers should be mindful of a poll showing that Americans want President Donald Trump removed immediately for inciting Wednesday's deadly violence in the U.S. Capitol. The Reuters/Ipsos poll showed that 57 percent of Americans wanted Trump to be ousted, and that nearly 70 percent of respondents disapproved of Trump's actions preceding the riot. In these polling results lies a message for the nation's lawmakers: Forcing Trump out of office would not further divide the country, as many Republicans contend, but rather is an essential step to restoring normality and communicating that our democracy will not accept attacks. Clearly, Americans are alarmed at the prospect of this unhinged president finishing out his term, and believe he should face consequences for his abhorrent actions. Although the percentage of poll respondents calling for Trump's ouster was higher among Democrats, both they and Republicans indicated

they wanted Trump to be removed. This stands to reason. The American people have had enough of the Trump horror show. Americans voted him out of office in an election that saw the largest turnout in history, voters delivered a stunning rebuke of Trumpism. And in this post-election period Americans have watched as Trump and his shameful GOP cohorts have tried to invalidate the vote of the people and overturn democracy. Now our disgust and desire for consequences for his attempted coup is rippling through the nation. Trump, true to form, has resisted calls to resign and is flying his twisted presidency into the ground. With his cowardly Cabinet indicating it won't invoke the 25th Amendment to remove him, the responsibility falls to Congress. The House is scheduled to introduce articles of impeachment today, with 180 sponsors. As Trump and his underbosses continue to agitate his followers with his false claim that the election was stolen from him, there's a clear and present danger of

more violence. It's telling that police in state capitols across the nation have ordered extra security measures – a sign of these worrisome times and of Trump's ability to provoke chaos even as his term comes to a close at noon Jan. 20. Americans have had enough, as the poll shows. This is simple: After four years of watching Trump vandalize our nation, abandon our people to a raging pandemic, destroy our economy and preside over deadly failures of horrific scale that make him the worst president in history, American are done with this loser. Then comes this final criminal act in a rampantly criminal presidency: orchestrating an attack on "our citadel of democracy," as Biden so aptly described the Capitol. Americans want Trump out before he does more harm. Ousting him wouldn't push Americans further apart. It would remove a threat, allow the nation to breathe easier and press a reset button that would allow us to move on, while demonstrating that the rule of law triumphs. *This editorial was first published in the Las Vegas Sun.*



This is all Trump's fault

At his Georgia rally the Monday night before the Georgia election, President Donald Trump predicted the state's senate runoff: "If [Republicans] lose, they're going to blame Trump." Well, it appears they did lose – and it is his fault. After the November election, Trump had two responsibilities: Distribute the new coronavirus vaccines quickly and efficiently, and save the Republican Senate majority. He failed at both. Vaccine distribution has been an inexcusable disaster. And on that Tuesday, Sen. Kelly Loeffler, R, lost to Raphael Warnock, D – a man who declared Americans could not serve both God and the military – while former Sen. David Perdue, R, is currently trailing Democratic challenger Jon Ossoff by more than 17,000 votes. This is a catastrophe. If Perdue does lose, Democrats will preside over a one-party state. They can eliminate the filibuster and pass radical legislation without compromise or concessions. They will have the power to pack the courts, raise taxes, go on an unprecedented spending spree and lock in their Senate majority by making the District of Columbia a state, giving them two safe seats. The only thing standing in their way is the hope that Sen. Joe Manchin III, D-W.Va., will stand with Republicans against his party's president, majority leader and House speaker. Good luck with that. As the leader of the Republican Party, it was Trump's responsibility to prevent this outcome. He should have been campaigning nonstop for Perdue and Loeffler over the past six weeks. But instead, by his own admission, he focused "125 percent of my energy" on his pathological campaign to reverse the results of the 2020 election.

Marc A. Thiessen



Not only did he barely lift a finger to help Loeffler and Perdue, he actively undermined them. When Congress finally passed a \$900 billion stimulus package, the senators should have been able to take credit for delivering emergency relief to struggling Georgians. Instead, Trump called the \$600 stimulus checks in the bill his own administration negotiated "ridiculously low" and demanded \$2,000 checks, which had no chance of approval in the GOP-controlled Senate. Biden seized on Trump's blunder, promising Georgia voters that if they gave Democrats control of the chamber, the \$2,000 checks would go out "immediately." Trump also put Loeffler and Perdue in an impossible bind by vetoing the defense authorization bill, which included a 3 percent military pay raise. Georgia has eight military bases and one of the country's largest populations of active duty service members. Loeffler and Perdue should have been able to campaign on delivering for military families. Instead, the president forced them to choose between angering those military families by sustaining Trump's veto or angering Trump's loyal base by overriding it. So, they skipped the vote – angering both. Worst of all, Trump dampened Republican enthusiasm by insisting the elections in Georgia are rigged. He declared on Twitter that the Georgia Senate races were "illegal and invalid." His presidential campaign ran an ad in Georgia the week before the runoff not to promote Loeffler and Perdue, but urging voters to demand state legislators overturn the November

election. Even at his Monday rally, the first words Trump uttered were, "There's no way we lost Georgia. That was a rigged election." Many Georgia Republicans believed his conspiracy-mongering and stayed home. According to the Cook Political Report, turnout in Whitfield County, where Trump held his rally, was 86.1 percent of November levels – below the statewide turnout of 89 percent of November levels. If Trump were trying to depress GOP turnout, he could not have done a better job. Some have speculated that is exactly what he was doing – that he really didn't want Loeffler and Perdue to prevail because if they won while he lost, it would have proven that the election was not rigged and that Georgia voters rejected him. Whether intentional or incompetent, his self-absorbed conduct over the past six weeks has been disastrous. He has driven away anyone willing to tell him the truth – that he lost a winnable election because he alienated too many Americans – and has surrounded himself with sycophants and enablers who indulge his penchant for conspiracy theories. He has shirked his responsibility to preside over a smooth presidential transition and the effective distribution of vaccines. And now, he may have delivered Democrats the power to reverse his legacy and irreversibly transform our country. After he lost, I urged him in this space to focus on winning back the presidency in four years. If he led the GOP to victory in Georgia, it would have been the first step in his political restoration. But if he handed Democrats control of the Senate, he would go down in ignominy. The choice was his. He chose ignominy. And now America may pay the price. *Follow Marc A. Thiessen on Twitter, @marcthiessen.*

LETTERS

Trump is the closest this country has come to having a dictator

Trump exhorted his followers in the crowd at his rally on Jan. 6 to march to the U.S. Capitol and express their anger with the election. His Anarchists rioted and broke into the Capitol, injuring police officers and damaging property. An element of Trump's followers is similar in ideology to Hitler's Nazi hordes who took control in Germany in the 1930s. This fifth column movement inspired by Trump is an ongoing danger to our democracy. Corrupt Trump tried but failed to get the Secretary of State in Georgia to justify changing approximately 12,000 votes from the presidential election in favor of Trump so he could declare victory in Georgia, and then Trump would be in a position to say his fraudulent election claims in several other states are valid. Unfortunately, several U.S. senators and representatives have gone along with Trump's claims so they can align themselves with Trump's following of radical sympathizers. These politicians even tried to overturn the election on Jan. 6 when the approved electoral votes of the states were brought forward for approval in Congress. Trump lost his cases in the courts, and then the corrupt President tried to circumvent the will of the people by coercing Republican lawmakers in swing states to overturn the election and appoint pro-Trump electors to the Electoral College. He has placed his self-interest above the country's interests, and he is sabotaging Biden's incoming administration. Trump is trying to turn the civilian leadership in the Pentagon into a politicized organization by infiltrating highly politically unqualified personnel, including former campaign staff, and this might pose a danger to our country. The outgoing corrupt and vindictive President is sabotaging the incoming administration and assaulting our democracy, and he is promoting a radical anti-American following in the U.S. Trump's comments and actions are consistent with that of current and former dictators, including Hitler, Stalin, Castro, Kim Jong Un and Putin. He is the closest this country has come to having a dictator as President, and he and his followers bear scrutiny in the future.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, New Hampshire

Biden shouldn't repeat the mistakes of the first Iran nuclear deal

If President Biden signs a nuclear deal with Iran or North Korea, he should not repeat the mistake of the first Iran deal: It imposed a waiting period for the inspection of suspected sites. This would have allowed them to move the materials for making a nuclear weapon – such as enriched uranium – to a second site during the waiting period for the first site; then when the second site comes under suspicion, it will have a waiting period during which the material can be moved to a third site; and so on.

Alex Sokolow
Wabash

Cultured meat could solve many problems

If President-Elect Joe Biden is serious about addressing climate change, preventing future outbreaks of zoonotic disease or minimizing animal cruelty on factory farms, he should support the nascent cultured-meat industry. This is simply too urgent to leave to the private sector. The United States should follow the example of Singapore and Israel in this regard. First, what is cultured meat? Well, it's grown from cells, without slaughtering animals. This may sound like something out of "Star Trek," but it's coming to a supermarket near you sooner than you might think. Dr. Mark Post created the first cultured-beef hamburger in 2013. It cost an incredible \$280,000. Soon he believes that price could be reduced to \$10. Still, more research is required to make cultured meat economically viable. Second, what kind of governmental support have Singapore and Israel offered the nascent industry? Well, most visibly, Singapore recently became the first country in the world to grant regulatory approval to cultured meat. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu became the first head of state to sample the product, which he spoke of in enthusiastic terms. Beyond that, both countries are putting money into cultured meat research. Singapore is investing \$100 million into alternative protein development. The Israel Innovation Authority helped launch Aleph Farms, the startup which served Netanyahu cultured meat. Biden should offer commensurate levels of support to the cultured-meat industry, for the sake of the environment, public health, and animal welfare.

Jon Hochschartner
Granby, Connecticut

HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 13, the 13th day of 2021. There are 352 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:
On Jan. 13, 1982, an Air Florida 737 crashed into Washington, D.C.'s 14th Street Bridge and fell into the Potomac River while trying to take off during a snowstorm, killing a total of 78 people, including four motorists on the bridge; four passengers and a flight attendant survived.

On this date:
In 1733, James Oglethorpe and some 120 English colonists arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, while en route to settle in present-day Georgia.
In 1794, President George Washington approved a measure adding two stars and two stripes to the American flag, following the admission of Vermont and Kentucky to the Union. (The number of stripes was later reduced to the original 13.)
In 1898, Emile Zola's famous defense of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, "J'accuse," was published in Paris.
In 1941, a new law went into effect granting Puerto Ricans U.S. birthright citizenship. Novelist and poet James Joyce died in Zurich, Switzerland, less than a month before his 59th birthday.

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All offers require credit qualification, 36-month commitment with early termination fee and eCheckPay. Prices include Hopper Duo for qualifying customers. Hopper, Hopper w/ling or Hopper 3 SSMs more. Upfront fees may apply based on credit qualification.

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PERU UTILITIES
PERU, INDIANA POSITION AVAILABLE
Peru Utilities has an immediate opening for an Apprentice Lineworker located in Peru, Indiana. As a Peru Utilities' Apprentice Lineworker, you will work under the direct supervision of a qualified employee to properly learn and progress towards becoming a Journeyman Lineworker. The Apprentice Lineworker will learn the skills and abilities required of a Journeyman Lineworker through a Department of Labor Certified Apprenticeship Program. Applicants should be prepared to deal with working heights and high voltage electrical current. Requirements: High-school diploma or equivalent. The successful candidate must reside within a 12-mile radius of the Peru Utility complex within 90 days of employment. Employment with Peru Utilities is contingent on the applicant passing a background check, physical examination, and drug screening. Competitive wages and benefits are offered. Inquiries will be answered only during the interview process. The full job description is available on peruutilities.com. Application is available on peruutilities.com. Print and complete application, and submit with resume to: Brenda Tillett Executive Assistant Human Resources Administrator Peru Utilities PO Box 67 Peru, IN 46970.

Deadline for submission: on or before Friday, February 5, 2021, by 3:30 p.m.

General Help

Wabash, IN
Looking for Male Jack Russell Terrier named Freebird. He was recently adopted from the Wabash Animal Shelter. Cash Reward for his return. Please, please, help me find my dog.
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EMPLOYMENT

General Help

The City of Marion will be accepting applications through Friday, January 22, 2021 for the following position:

City of Marion Controller's Department is seeking applicants for a part-time Accounts Payable Clerk.

Job responsibilities: Enter account payable claims, print and mail checks, distribute check registers to departments; records and maintains all assets; performs general office duties; and assists with daily deposits.

Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent; training or experience in bookkeeping, basic accounting, and office procedures.

To apply: You may print an application online at www.cityofmarion.in.gov. Mail to City of Marion, Attn: Human Resources 301 S. Branson St. Marion, IN 46952.

The Hartford City Police Department is now accepting applications for a Patrol Officer. All applicants must be at least 21 years of age, have a High School Diploma or GED equivalent and a valid Indiana driver's license. Applications can be found at <http://www.hartfordcity.net/police-department> or by requesting through email. Applications will be accepted

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Legals

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's Sale File Number: 85-21-0001-SS
Date & Time of Sale: Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.
Sale Location: Wabash County Sheriff's Department basement, Miami Street entrance, 79 W. Main St., Wabash, IN 46992
Judgment to be Satisfied: \$82,710.62

Cause Number: 85D01-1907-MF-000617
Plaintiff: The Bank of New York Mellon, successor to The Bank of New York, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee on behalf of the holders of the CIT Mortgage Loan Trust, 2007-1 Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-1 Defendant: Nichole L. Culver, State of Indiana and Merl G. Ellis

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Wabash Superior Court of Wabash County, Indiana, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, at the hour of 10:00 AM of said day as listed above, at 79 West Main Street, Wabash, IN 46992, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wabash County, Indiana:

Lot Number One Hundred Thirty-nine (139), One Hundred Forty (140) and One Hundred Forty-One (141) in Ross Heights Addition to the City of Wabash.

Commonly Known as: 235 Grant St., Wabash, IN 46992-1105

Parcel No. 85-14-02-301-135.000-009

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. This Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of the above-described real estate upon the owners, pursuant to requirements of IC 32-29-7-3.

Ryan Baker, Sheriff of Wabash County
By: Connie Rich, Administrative Assistant
Phone: (260) 563-8891

Township of property location: Noble
Common street address of property: 235 Grant St, Wabash, IN 46992-1105
Property Tax ID: 85-14-02-301-135.000-009

Attorney: MATTHEW S. LOVE
Attorney Number: 18762-29
Law Firm: Feiwell & Hannoy, P.C.
Contact Number: (317) 237-2727
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The sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings.
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PERU, INDIANA POSITION AVAILABLE
Peru Utilities has an immediate opening for an Apprentice Lineworker located in Peru, Indiana. As a Peru Utilities' Apprentice Lineworker, you will work under the direct supervision of a qualified employee to properly learn and progress towards becoming a Journeyman Lineworker. The Apprentice Lineworker will learn the skills and abilities required of a Journeyman Lineworker through a Department of Labor Certified Apprenticeship Program. Applicants should be prepared to deal with working heights and high voltage electrical current. Requirements: High-school diploma or equivalent. The successful candidate must reside within a 12-mile radius of the Peru Utility complex within 90 days of employment. Employment with Peru Utilities is contingent on the applicant passing a background check, physical examination, and drug screening. Competitive wages and benefits are offered. Inquiries will be answered only during the interview process. The full job description is available on peruutilities.com. Application is available on peruutilities.com. Print and complete application, and submit with resume to: Brenda Tillett Executive Assistant Human Resources Administrator Peru Utilities PO Box 67 Peru, IN 46970.

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Legals

"Duke Energy Corporation (1000 East Main Street, Plainfield, Indiana 46168) is submitting a Notice of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of our intent to comply with the requirements of the 327 IAC 15-5 to discharge storm water from construction activities associated with the Wabash 138kV Substation Project at 1335 South Wabash Street, Wabash, Indiana 46992. Runoff from the project site will discharge to the Upper Wabash River. Questions or comments regarding this project should be directed to Brian Catt, Duke Energy Corporation." HSPAXLP.01/13/2021

Legals

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff's Sale File Number: 85-21-0001-SS
Date & Time of Sale: Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.
Sale Location: Wabash County Sheriff's Department basement, Miami Street entrance, 79 W. Main St., Wabash, IN 46992
Judgment to be Satisfied: \$82,710.62

Cause Number: 85D01-1907-MF-000617
Plaintiff: The Bank of New York Mellon, successor to The Bank of New York, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee on behalf of the holders of the CIT Mortgage Loan Trust, 2007-1 Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-1 Defendant: Nichole L. Culver, State of Indiana and Merl G. Ellis

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Wabash Superior Court of Wabash County, Indiana, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, at the hour of 10:00 AM of said day as listed above, at 79 West Main Street, Wabash, IN 46992, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wabash County, Indiana:

Lot Number One Hundred Thirty-nine (139), One Hundred Forty (140) and One Hundred Forty-One (141) in Ross Heights Addition to the City of Wabash.

Commonly Known as: 235 Grant St., Wabash, IN 46992-1105

Parcel No. 85-14-02-301-135.000-009

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. This Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of the above-described real estate upon the owners, pursuant to requirements of IC 32-29-7-3.

Ryan Baker, Sheriff of Wabash County
By: Connie Rich, Administrative Assistant
Phone: (260) 563-8891

Township of property location: Noble
Common street address of property: 235 Grant St, Wabash, IN 46992-1105
Property Tax ID: 85-14-02-301-135.000-009

Attorney: MATTHEW S. LOVE
Attorney Number: 18762-29
Law Firm: Feiwell & Hannoy, P.C.
Contact Number: (317) 237-2727
F&H Reference #: 101465F01

The sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings.
hspxip

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We are not connected with, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Federal Medicare Program. I understand I have no obligation. This is a solicitation of insurance. A licensed agent/producer may contact you. Policy form number L030, L035, L036, L037, L038, F001, F002 (OK: L030OK, L035OK, L036OK, L037OK, L038OK; TN: L030TN, L035TN, L036TN, L037TN, L038TN, F001TN, F002TN) 6243_B

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General Help

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Peru Utilities has an immediate opening for an Apprentice Lineworker located in Peru, Indiana. As a Peru Utilities' Apprentice Lineworker, you will work under the direct supervision of a qualified employee to properly learn and progress towards becoming a Journeyman Lineworker. The Apprentice Lineworker will learn the skills and abilities required of a Journeyman Lineworker through a Department of Labor Certified Apprenticeship Program. Applicants should be prepared to deal with working heights and high voltage electrical current. Requirements: High-school diploma or equivalent. The successful candidate must reside within a 12-mile radius of the Peru Utility complex within 90 days of employment. Employment with Peru Utilities is contingent on the applicant passing a background check, physical examination, and drug screening. Competitive wages and benefits are offered. Inquiries will be answered only during the interview process. The full job description is available on peruutilities.com. Application is available on peruutilities.com. Print and complete application, and submit with resume to: Brenda Tillett Executive Assistant Human Resources Administrator Peru Utilities PO Box 67 Peru, IN 46970.

Deadline for submission: on or before Friday, February 5, 2021, by 3:30 p.m.

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GARAGE/ ESTATE SALE

EMPLOYMENT

General Help

The City of Marion will be accepting applications through Friday, January 22, 2021 for the following position:

City of Marion Controller's Department is seeking applicants for a part-time Accounts Payable Clerk.

Job responsibilities: Enter account payable claims, print and mail checks, distribute check registers to departments; records and maintains all assets; performs general office duties; and assists with daily deposits.

Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent; training or experience in bookkeeping, basic accounting, and office procedures.

To apply: You may print an application online at www.cityofmarion.in.gov. Mail to City of Marion, Attn: Human Resources 301 S. Branson St. Marion, IN 46952.

The Hartford City Police Department is now accepting applications for a Patrol Officer. All applicants must be at least 21 years of age, have a High School Diploma or GED equivalent and a valid Indiana driver's license. Applications can be found at <http://www.hartfordcity.net/police-department> or by requesting through email. Applications will be accepted

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EOE, including disability/vets

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The perils of false idols

On the morning of Jan. 5, a best-selling Christian author posted a picture of the Egyptian Coptic martyrs who were beheaded on a beach

Kathryn Lopez



in Libya in 2015. Above the photo, the author asked: “What price are you willing to pay for what you believe in?” That’s an excellent question I ask myself often. I’d like to think I would have the courage to die for Christ. But to die for Donald Trump? Because that was certainly how people who saw the tweet interpreted it, given what happened the next day in our nation’s capital, and the many, many tweets about it.

Jan. 6, of course, was the day Congress was set to certify the Electoral College vote for the next president. Usually a mere formality, this year it turned into something far uglier, as we all saw unfold on our screens.

The Copts who were beheaded that morning six years ago died for Jesus Christ. They trusted God so much that they knew that by refusing to convert to Islam at point of a sword, they

would go home to God for eternity. One of the amazing details of the story is that one man among the 21 was not a Christian. But upon being given the choice of life in a world of ISIS terrorists or death with the Christians, he chose the latter.

I know it’s a big complicated world full of evil and corruption, but the Trump administration did not make a convincing case that there was election-flipping evidence of fraud – the reason that supposedly drove the so-called patriots to riot in the Capitol. I understand how frustrating politics can be, and as a person who opposes abortion and treasures religious liberty, I’m very worried about a Biden-Harris administration. But I also still believe this country’s Founding Fathers were on to something when they laid the foundations of our system of government.

While there were Christian signs and words at the rally that preceded the riot, it’s hard to escape the thought that some of the people there had made an idol of Donald Trump. Idolatry in politics is a bipartisan problem. As Barack Obama said: “We are the ones we have been waiting for.” No, all of human history hasn’t been waiting for any political candidate. God

provides, and He knows what He is about. This moment in history requires universal humility and an examination of conscience.

I had a sick feeling as I watched the president’s rally on television. One of the defenses Trump supporters made in the hours after Congress was cleared of danger is that the president didn’t say anything he hadn’t already said, that it was a typical rally. And there is truth to that. But this, of course, was the one rally that was the end of the line for a presidency Trump wouldn’t let go of.

“We will never give up. We will never concede. ... Our country has had enough. We will not take it anymore, and that is what this is all about,” Trump said. If I believed the election was stolen and clearly no one could be trusted, I might have stormed the Capitol, too.

There are reasonable people who believe the election was stolen, because Trump has insisted it is so. There are reasonable people who believe that we are on the edge of socialism. There are reasonable people who worry that we have not learned the lessons of the last century. These people aren’t are scared and despairing.

When a protest becomes a

mob, we are in different territory. We did see this over the summer when protests over police brutality and racism destroyed businesses. With the Trump rioters, we had the ransacking of the United States Capitol. Can’t we all collectively say this has gone way too far?

People are frustrated. They are fed up. Trump didn’t start that fire, but he did kindle the flames. If Joe Biden is going to succeed in his presidency, he’s going to have to respect this frustration – though certainly not the violence. I wasn’t there, but from reports and experience, the vast majority of the people at that Trump rally were peaceful. Many were locales. President-elect Biden must make a pitch to be their president too. I fear what’s to come if he doesn’t.

We need to remember like the Founders that there is more than our earthly reality. There’s more to life – and our nation-- than who the president is. Remember the humility of the martyrs. They certainly were not dying for Donald Trump or Joe Biden.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book “A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living.”

VFW Post No. 286 to hold fish fry Friday

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 286 will hold a fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15 at 3678 W. Old 24, according to Dan Ford.

The menu will include hand beer-battered fish, baked beans, coleslaw and

hush puppies.

The cost will be \$9 per person. The event will be open to the public.

“Current COVID-19 restrictions (will be) observed,” said Ford. For more information, call 260-563-2463.

Grow Wabash County to postpone State of Our Communities event

STAFF REPORT

Grow Wabash County has announced they will postpone the State of Our Communities event, according to project manager for marketing and events Chelsea Boulrisse.

The event was formerly slated for Thursday, Feb. 11 at the Eagles Theatre, 106 W. Market St.

The new date for State of Our Communities will be from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Thursday, April 1 at the Eagles Theatre.

“The decision to postpone came after discussions with the Honeywell Foundation, the Grow Wabash County board of directors and community leaders planning to present. Due to capacity

restrictions related to Wabash County’s COVID-19 metrics, as outlined by the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), Grow Wabash County feel it is prudent to refrain from hosting large gatherings to ensure the health and safety of our community,” said Boulrisse. “This annual event features representatives from every Wabash County incorporated community as they outline the successes of the past year and share future goals for their communities and Wabash County at large.”

Boulrisse said registration will open in the coming weeks and further information about tickets and sponsorship opportunities to follow.

MUTATION

From page A1

than five total teacher positive cases and fewer than five total staff positive cases.

■ Manchester Intermediate School (MIS) reported fewer than five new student positive cases and eight total student positive cases.

■ Metro North Elementary School reported fewer than five each total student positive cases, total teacher positive cases and total staff positive cases.

■ Heartland Career Center reported fewer than five each new staff positive cases and total staff positive cases.

■ Sharp Creek Elementary School reported fewer than five each total student positive cases, total teacher positive cases and total staff positive cases.

■ Northfield Jr./Sr. High School (NHS) reported 36 total student positive cases, fewer than five total teacher positive cases and eight total staff positive cases.

■ O.J. Neighbours Elementary School reported fewer than five new student positive cases, fewer than five new teacher positive cases, fewer than five total student positive cases, nine total teacher positive cases and fewer than five total staff positive cases.

■ Wabash Middle School reported 10 total student positive cases.

■ Wabash High School reported fewer than five new student positive cases, 13 student positive cases, fewer than five total teacher positive cases and fewer than five total staff positive cases.

■ St. Bernard Elementary School reported fewer than five total teacher positive cases.

■ Southwood Jr./Sr. High School (SHS) reported fewer than five new student positive cases, 15 total student positive cases and fewer than five total staff positive cases.

■ Southwood Elementary School reported fewer than five each total student positive cases, total teacher positive cases and total staff positive cases.

On the Manchester Community Schools’ (MCS) own dashboard the information is updated once contact tracing is complete and all close contacts have been notified. MCS defines close contact is when an individual is within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of someone with confirmed COVID-19.

“The Wabash County Health Department determined close contacts in conjunction with school personnel and advised us who to quarantine,” stated MCS.

The individually reported

MCS cases include:

■ Sept. 28: One case each at MES and MHS, with five people quarantined.

■ Oct. 10: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

■ Oct. 14: One case at MHS, with two people quarantined.

■ Oct. 15: One case at MES, with five people quarantined. And one case at MHS, with two people quarantined.

■ Oct. 16: One case at MHS, with 34 people quarantined.

■ Oct. 20: One case at MHS, with no additional people quarantined.

■ Oct. 21: One case at MIS, with one person quarantined.

■ Oct. 28: One case at MHS, with no additional people quarantined.

■ Nov. 2: One case at MHS, with two people quarantined.

■ Nov. 3: Two cases at MHS, with two people quarantined.

■ Nov. 4: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

■ Nov. 4: One case at MIS with one person quarantined.

■ Nov. 5: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

■ Nov. 6: One case at MES, and one case at MHS, with two people quarantined.

■ Nov. 8: One case at MCS Transportation, with one person quarantined.

■ Nov. 9: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

■ Nov. 10: Three cases at MHS, with three people quarantined; and one case at MES, with one person quarantined.

■ Nov. 13: One case at MHS, with three people quarantined.

■ Nov. 14: One case at MHS, with three people quarantined.

■ Nov. 16: Two cases at MHS, with seven people quarantined; one case at MCS Transportation including all schools in the district, with 25 people quarantined; and one case at MHS, with five people quarantined.

■ Nov. 17: One case at MES, with 22 people quarantined; and one case at MCS Transportation, with four people quarantined.

■ Nov. 19: One case at MHS, with six people quarantined; and one case at MCS Transportation, with one person quarantined.

■ Nov. 20: Two cases at MHS, with 15 people quarantined.

■ Nov. 22: One case at MES, with 11 people quarantined.

■ Nov. 23: One case at MHS, with two people quarantined.

■ Nov. 24: Four cases at MHS, with 24 people quarantined.

■ Nov. 25: One case at MHS, with four people quarantined.

■ Nov. 29: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

■ Nov. 30: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

■ Dec. 1: One case at MIS, with three people quarantined; and one case at MHS, with three people quarantined.

■ Dec. 3: One case at MHS, with two people quarantined.

■ Dec. 4: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

■ Dec. 8: Three cases at MHS, with five people quarantined.

■ Dec. 10: Two cases at MHS, with 15 people quarantined.

■ Dec. 14: One case at MIS, with 17 people quarantined.

■ Dec. 16: One case at MES, with 16 people quarantined.

■ Dec. 17: One case at MHS, with 21 people quarantined.

■ Dec. 19: One case at MHS, with four people quarantined.

■ Dec. 20: One case at MHS, with three people quarantined.

■ Dec. 23: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined; and one case at MIS, with three people quarantined.

■ Dec. 26: One case at MIS, with one person quarantined.

■ Dec. 28: Two cases at MHS, with four people quarantined.

■ Dec. 31: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

■ Jan. 2: One case at MHS, with two people quarantined.

■ Jan. 3: One case at the MCS Administrative Office, one person quarantined.

■ Jan. 4: One case at the MCS Administrative Office, one person quarantined.

■ Jan. 5: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined; and one case at MCS Transportation with four people quarantined.

■ Jan. 8: One case at MHS, with 22 people quarantined.

■ Jan. 9: One case at MHS, with one person quarantined.

Schools of higher learning are not listed on the ISDH schools dashboard. However, Manchester University maintains its own, separate dashboard. On Monday, Nov. 23, 2020, students transitioned to remote learning and have left campus to complete the semester. During the fall semester, there were 1,987 tests performed, with 98.3 percent of those being negative, and 1.7 percent being positive. At the North Man-

chester campus, there were 36 self-reported cases, and at the Fort Wayne campus, there were nine self-reported cases.

On-campus COVID-19 testing began again the week of Jan. 4. Updates to this dashboard will be made each Friday to reflect the current week of testing and the semester to date. As of Friday, Jan. 8, a total of 89 tests were performed during the current week, with all of them being negative.

“Manchester’s protocol for positive COVID-19 test results is to have the individual self-isolate until their symptoms are gone and they have been without a fever for 48 hours. The University thoroughly cleans areas on campus where they have been with hospital-grade solutions, and the state of Indiana does contact tracing so that those who may have come in contact with the individual can take proper steps,” said assistant director of media relations Anne Gregory. “The testing data ... reflects total tests for the school year beginning Aug. 24, 2020, not active cases. Self-reported cases are from those students, staff and faculty who have tested at locations off-campus and have shared the results with the University. The University does not have access to total testing numbers off-campus. These numbers reflect total cases reported since Aug. 24, 2020, not active cases. Manchester University does not release specific information about individuals who have tested positive, but will continue to report the number of positive cases among those who are on our North Manchester

or Fort Wayne campuses.”

Local figures

On Saturday, the ISDH reported 25 new local COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 2,766, with 12,454 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 5.8 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 19.7 percent.

On Sunday, the ISDH reported 25 new local COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 2,791, with 12,529 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 5.9 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 20.3 percent.

On Monday, the ISDH reported 12 new local COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 2,803, with 12,555 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 7.7 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 21 percent.

On Tuesday, the ISDH reported 18 new local COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County’s total to 2,820, with 12,599 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 6.8 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 21.2 percent.

Testing continues at Parkview Wabash

OptumServe will administer free COVID-19 testing from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays at Parkview Wabash Hospital “on an on-going basis.” Testing will take place at 8 John Kissinger Drive in

the first-floor conference room of the Medical Office Building (MOB) adjoining Parkview Wabash Hospital. Testing site patrons should not use the MOB entrance or enter through the hospital, but instead, enter and exit through the designated entrance between the two buildings. Signage will mark the appropriate entrance, which is within a few steps of the conference room and testing site.

Statewide figures

On Tuesday, the ISDH announced that 3,191 additional Hoosiers have been diagnosed with COVID-19 through testing at state and private laboratories. That brings to 570,477 the number of Indiana residents now known to have had the novel coronavirus following corrections to the previous day’s dashboard.

A total of 8,731 Hoosiers are confirmed to have died from COVID-19, an increase of 88 from the previous day. Another 373 probable deaths have been reported based on clinical diagnoses in patients for whom no positive test is on record. Deaths are reported based on when data are received by the state and occurred over multiple days.

To date, 2,770,157 unique individuals have been tested in Indiana, up from 2,762,573 on Monday. A total of 6,175,128 tests, including repeat tests for unique individuals, have been reported to the ISDH since Feb. 26.

To find testing sites around the state, visit www.coronavirus.in.gov and click on the COVID-19 testing information link.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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U.S. shifts to speed COVID shots as cases rise

By **ZEKE MILLER**
and **RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Barely a month into a mass vaccination campaign to stop the COVID-19 pandemic, the Trump administration unexpectedly shifted gears Tuesday to speed the delivery of shots. The move came after widespread concern over a slow start even as coronavirus cases and deaths reach new highs.

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar announced a series of major changes to increase supply of vaccines and expand the age groups eligible as well as locations where people can get shots.

One change will have some teeth to it. Azar said going forward the federal government will base each state's allocation of vaccines partly on how successful states have been in administering those already provided.

"If you are not using vaccines that you have the right to, then we should be rebalancing to states that are using that vaccine," Azar said at news conference. That won't happen overnight, not until officials try to sort out whether lags in reporting could be the reason for what appears to be subpar performance.

Azar also said the government will stop holding back the required second doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines, practically doubling supply. Both those shots require two doses to achieve optimum protection.

Additionally, Washington is urging states to immediately start vaccinating other groups lower down the priority scale, including people age 65 and older and younger people with certain health problems.

The move to increase the supply of vaccines better aligns the outgoing administration with the new Biden-Harris team. On Friday, President-elect Joe Biden said he will rapidly release most available vaccine doses to protect more people. He said he supported immediately releasing vaccines that health authorities were holding back out of caution, to guarantee they would be available for people needing their second dose.

"This next phase reflects the urgency of the situation," said Azar. "Every vaccine dose sitting in a warehouse rather than going into an arm could mean one more death that could have been avoided."

Initially the government had been holding back second doses as a safety precaution against potential short-

falls in production. Now, officials say they are confident the needed supply will be there. And people needing a second dose will have priority.

Simultaneously, Azar gave states the green light to provide more places where people can get shots. Those locations can include tens of thousands of pharmacies, federally supported community health centers that serve low-income communities, and mass vaccination sites already being set up in some states.

As of Monday morning, the government had distributed about 25.5 million doses to states, U.S. territories and major cities. But only about 9 million people had received their first shot, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's online tracker. That means only about 35 percent of the available vaccines had been administered.

Initially, the shots were going to health care workers and nursing home residents. Those 75 and older were next in line. But problems arose even in vaccinating that limited pool of people. Some hospital and nursing home workers have been hesitant to get the vaccine. Scheduling issues created delays in getting shots to nursing homes.

Some states, including Ar-

izona, have or are planning to open up mass vaccination centers, aiming to inoculate thousands of people a day in a single location. In Florida, Gov. Ron DeSantis opened up vaccinations to people 65 and older. In other states, local health authorities have started asking residents 65 and older to register, in anticipation the vaccination campaign would be expanded.

Although Azar said the shift in strategy was a natural evolution of the Trump administration's efforts, as recently as Friday he had raised questions about whether Biden's call to accelerate supplies was prudent.

On Tuesday, he also sought to deflect blame to the states for the slow uptake of vaccines. Azar said some states are being "overly prescriptive and trying to micromanage every single dose of vaccine," leading to bottlenecks.

Azar also criticized what he called "the hospitalization of vaccine distribution," saying "we have too much vaccine sitting in freezers in hospitals."

State and local officials are sure to point out that it was the federal government that recommended putting health care workers at the front of the vaccination line.

The Trump administration directed a crash effort to develop, manufacture and deliver vaccines, hoping

to avoid a repeat of earlier debacles with coronavirus testing. Dubbed "Operation Warp Speed," it has produced two highly effective vaccines, with more on the way.

Each state has its own plan for who should be vaccinated, based on CDC recommendations that gave first priority to health care workers and nursing home residents. Some critics say the administration's planning should have extended into helping states administer the shots after they were delivered. Congress has recently approved more than \$8 billion for that.

The slow pace of the vaccine rollout has frustrated many Americans at a time when the coronavirus death toll has continued to rise. More than 376,000 people in the U.S. have died, according to the Johns Hopkins database.

Azar said the pace of vaccinations has picked up, hitting 700,000 a day recently and on track to reach 1 million daily. But the American Hospital Association estimates 1.8 million vaccinations a day are needed, seven days a week, to achieve widespread immunity by the middle of this year. Biden has set a goal of 100 million shots administered in his first 100 days.

"We're in a race against

this virus and quite frankly, we're behind," U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams told "Fox & Friends." Public health advocates agree.

"Bottom line is we need to get the most vaccine in the most arms as quickly as we can and we need to make sure people get the second dose — those are not necessarily at odds with each other," said Chrissie Juliano, of the Big Cities Health Coalition, which represents leaders of large metropolitan health departments. "The public health prevention measures we are asking people to do — stay home, mask up, social distance — aren't getting us to where we need to be. We need to be bold and we need to respond with renewed urgency."

Biden is expected to give a speech Thursday outlining his plan to speed vaccines to more people in the first part of his administration. His transition team has vowed to release as many vaccine doses as possible, rather than continuing what had been the Trump administration policy of holding back millions of doses to ensure there would be enough supply to allow those getting the first shot to get a second one.

Azar said they'll brief the Biden transition team on the changes, but didn't seek their blessing.

FBI says it warned about prospect of violence ahead of riot

By **MICHAEL BALSAMO**
and **ERIC TUCKER**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The FBI warned law enforcement agencies ahead of last week's breach of the U.S. Capitol about the potential for extremist-driven violence, U.S. officials said on Tuesday, contradicting earlier statements that they were caught off guard by the assault by supporters of President Donald Trump.

Nearly a week after the riot, officials said they were combing through mountains of evidence and vowed to aggressively seek out those who perpetrated the brazen attack on the U.S. Capitol. Though most of the charges brought so far have been misdemeanors, acting U.S. Attorney Michael Sherwin said the Justice Department was considering bringing sedition charges against some of the rioters, effectively accusing them of attempting to overthrow or defeat the government.

"This is only the beginning," Sherwin said. "We're going to focus on the most significant charges as a deterrent because, regardless of it was just a trespass in the Capitol or if someone planted a pipe bomb, you will be charged and you will be found."

The Justice Department has created a specialized strike force to examine the possibility of sedition charges. Officials said they were utilizing some of the same techniques in the riot probe as they use in international counterterrorism investigations, examining the money flow and movement of defendants leading up to the breach. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, a New York Democrat, called for the rioters to be added to a no-fly list, a tool most commonly applied in foreign terror cases.

The statements by FBI and Justice Department officials on Tuesday were intended as both a defense of federal law enforcement preparations before the deadly riot and as a warning to participants. But they also raised new questions about the coordination across agencies for the Jan. 6 riot, which was sparked by Trump's calls for his supporters to fight Congress' vote confirming President-elect Joe Biden's victory.

In the immediate aftermath of the riot, some law enforcement officials, including the Capitol police chief, said they were unaware of serious concerns leading up to Jan. 6 and had prepared only for a free-speech protest.

But on Tuesday, The Washington Post reported on the existence of a Jan. 5 report from the FBI's field office in Norfolk, Virginia, that forecast, in detail, the chances for "war" in Washington the following day. Steven D'Antuono, the assistant director in charge of the FBI's Washington field office, said that once he received the Jan. 5 warning, it was shared with other law enforcement agencies within 40 minutes.

D'Antuono was among the officials who suggested law enforcement had simply been caught off guard, saying on Friday: "There was no indication that there was anything other than first amendment protected activity." He did not explain the discrepancy in his statements, though he suggested Tuesday that the Norfolk warning was specific in terms of individual leads to investigate, characterizing it as a "thread on a message board." U.S. Capitol Police and other official didn't immediately respond to questions about their own initial assessments of the threat.

A U.S. defense official familiar with the discussions said Tuesday that Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy was not notified about the FBI warning.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations, said that it is unclear whether any defense or military officials heard about the notification from the FBI, but that statements in recent days from all the leaders indicate they weren't aware that violence of that level was expected at the Capitol.

Defense and National Guard officials, including McCarthy, have said in interviews over the past several days they were told by D.C. that they believed the protests would be similar to the ones on Nov. 14 and Dec. 12. And they said that federal law enforcement authorities said that there was activity on Twitter, but that they weren't expecting the level of violence they ultimately saw last Wednesday.

Even without intelligence from law enforcement, there had been ample warning about pro-Trump demonstrations in Washington. But Capitol Police did not bolster staffing and made no preparations for the possibility that the planned protests could escalate into massive, violent riots, according to several people briefed on the law enforcement response. Officials turned down help offered by the Pentagon three days before the riot.

House races to oust Trump as he says effort angers nation

By **LISA MASCARO,**
ZEKE MILLER
and **MARY CLARE JALONICK**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House pressed swiftly forward Tuesday toward impeachment or other steps to forcibly remove President Donald Trump from office, even as Trump blamed Democratic foes and not himself for last week's deadly attack on the Capitol.

He targeted the lawmakers who are pushing for his ouster, saying that it's "a really terrible thing that they're doing."

"To continue on this path, I think it's causing tremendous danger to our country, and it's causing tremendous anger," he said. He accepted no blame for the Capitol attack and said, "I want no violence."

The defeated president, in his first remarks to reporters since last week's violence, showed no remorse for firing up the crowd ahead of the the deadly invasion with comments that now are part of the impeachment charge of inciting insurrection.

The president spoke as he left for Texas to survey the border wall with Mexico, taking no questions, after the most serious and deadly domestic incursion at the Capitol in the nation's history.

Impeachment ahead, the House on Tuesday will first try to convince the vice president and Cabinet to act even more quickly to remove Trump from office, warning he is a threat to democracy in the remaining days of his presidency.

House lawmakers are reconvening at the Capitol for the first time since the deadly pro-Trump riot to approve a resolution calling on Vice President Mike Pence to invoke the 25th Amendment to declare the president unable to serve. Pence is not expected to take any such action. The House would next move swiftly to impeach Trump.

"We have to be very tough and very strong right now in defending the Constitution and democracy," said Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., an author of both pieces of legislation, in an interview.

Trump faces a single charge — "incitement of insurrection" — in the impeachment resolution that the House will begin debating Wednesday, a week before Democrat Joe Biden is set to be inaugurated, Jan. 20.

The unprecedented events, which could make Trump the first U.S. president to be twice impeached, are unfolding in a nation bracing for more unrest. The FBI has warned ominously of potential armed protests in Washington and many states



Yuri Gripas / Abaca Press / TNS

U.S. President Donald Trump speaks to his supporters at the Save America Rally on Jan. 6.

by Trump loyalists ahead of Biden's inauguration. In a dark foreshadowing, the Washington Monument was closed to the public and the inauguration ceremony on the west steps of the Capitol will be off limits to the public.

It all added up to stunning final moments for Trump's presidency as Democrats and a growing number of Republicans declare he is unfit for office and could do more damage after inciting a mob that violently ransacked the U.S. Capitol last Wednesday. A Capitol police officer died from injuries suffered in the riot, and police shot a woman during the violence. Three others died in what authorities said were medical emergencies.

Late Monday, the entire Congressional Hispanic Caucus, all 34 members, unanimously agreed to support impeachment, calling for Trump's immediate removal.

"It is clear that every moment Trump remains in office, America is at risk," said a statement from the caucus, led by Rep. Raul Ruiz, D-Ca. It said Trump "must be held accountable" for his actions.

Democrats aren't the only ones who say Trump needs to go.

Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., spoke to House GOP colleagues late Monday of the significance of the vote, and encouraged them to consider it a "vote of conscience," according to a person granted anonymity to discuss the private call. She has spoken critically of Trump's actions but has not said publicly how she will vote.

Republican Sen. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania joined GOP Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska over the weekend in calling for Trump to "go away as soon as possible."

Pence and Trump met late Monday for the first time since the Capitol attack, and had a "good conversation"

pledging to continue working for the remainder of their terms, said a senior administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the private meeting.

Pence has given no indication he would proceed with invoking the 25th Amendment to remove Trump from office. No member of the Cabinet has publicly called for Trump to be removed from office through the 25th Amendment process.

As security tightened, Biden said Monday he was "not afraid" of taking the oath of office outside at the Capitol.

As for the rioters, Biden said, "It is critically important that there'll be a real serious focus on holding those folks who engaged in sedition and threatening the lives, defacing public property, caused great damage — that they be held accountable."

Biden said he's had conversations with senators ahead of a possible impeachment trial, which some have worried would cloud the opening days of his administration.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer was exploring ways to immediately convene the Senate for the trial as soon as the House acts, though Republican leader Mitch McConnell would need to agree. The president-elect suggested splitting the Senate's time, perhaps "go a half day on dealing with impeachment, a half day on getting my people nominated and confirmed in the Senate, as well as moving on the package" for more COVID relief.

As Congress resumes, an uneasiness swept government. Another lawmaker, Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., announced Tuesday she had tested positive for COVID-19 after sheltering during the siege.

Many lawmakers may choose to vote by proxy rather than come to Washington,

a process that was put in place last year to limit the health risks of travel.

House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy has discouraged GOP lawmakers from using the proxy option. But during a call with them he loosened his strict opposition for this week's votes, according to a Republican granted anonymity to discuss the private call.

Among Trump's closest allies in Congress, McCarthy said in a letter to colleagues that "impeachment at this time would have the opposite effect of bringing our country together."

He said he would review possible censure of the president. But House Republicans are split and a few may vote to impeach.

Democrats say they have the votes for impeachment. The impeachment bill from Reps. David Cicilline of Rhode Island, Ted Lieu of California, Raskin of Maryland and Jerrold Nadler of New York draws from Trump's own false statements about his election defeat to Biden.

Judges across the country, including some nominated by Trump, have repeatedly dismissed cases challenging the election results, and former Attorney General William Barr, a Trump ally, has said there was no sign of widespread fraud.

The impeachment legislation also details Trump's pressure on state officials in Georgia to "find" him more votes, as well as his White House rally ahead of the Capitol siege, in which he encouraged thousands of supporters last Wednesday to "fight like hell" and march to the building.

The mob overpowered police, broke through security lines and windows and rammed through the Capitol, forcing lawmakers to scatter as they were finalizing Biden's victory over Trump in the Electoral College.